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# The American-Scandinavian Review

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Of *The American-Scandinavian Review*, published quarterly, at Princeton, New Jersey, for October 1, 1933.  
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## FINANCIAL NOTES

### SWEDISH BANK HAS DIFFICULTY FINDING INVESTMENTS FOR CASH

Unable to find sufficiently safe short-time investments for its large cash assets, the Stockholm Enskilda Bank management found it necessary to reduce the interests paid on the deposit and capital accounts by one-half per cent. Since the spring of 1932, deposits at the bank have shown a steady increase. Other Swedish banks are said to be confronted with a similar problem of increased deposits.

### DANISH FINANCIAL INTERESTS FORM WORLD HOLDING COMPANY

The Horvath Holding Company has been organized in Copenhagen for the purpose of protecting the invention of a grain-renovating machine through patent rights in the leading European countries. The inventor of the machine is the Bavarian Baron von Horvath. The minimum capital is placed at 1,000,000 kroner.

### CASH INCOME OF INDUSTRIAL WORKERS SHOWN BY BANK BULLETIN

A very substantial increase in the cash income of industrial workers is shown by the U.S. Department of Labor index, as reported in the *Bulletin* of the National City Bank of New York. In four recent months the index of payment disbursements advanced 39 per cent in manufacturing industries. An estimate by the Standard Statistics Company places the income of farmers during the four months at \$7,500,000,000 as compared with \$5,240,000,000 during a similar period in 1932. On the other hand, the cost of living for industrial workers, as calculated by the National Industrial Conference Board, is moving upward at an accelerated pace.

### NORWEGIAN AGRICULTURAL INDEBTEDNESS STATED

According to a preliminary report issued by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, the total agricultural indebtedness of Norway for the tax year 1932-33 was 1,192,262,000 kroner. The average indebtedness per farm was 45.3 per cent of the assets, as compared with an average of 37 per cent when the first survey was made in 1890. The percentage of indebtedness of small holdings was higher than that of large farms.

### DOUBLE TAXATION CITED AS A TRADE BARRIER

Writing from Geneva, Mitchell B. Carroll states, as published in the *Index* of Svenska Handelsbanken of Stockholm, that "the heavy taxation of income both in the foreign country where one has investments or business establishments and in the home country, causes the flight of capital, the flight of income and the drying up of its source." The writer adds that the urgent need for relief is tersely expressed by the resolution adopted at the recent congress of the International Chamber of Commerce at Vienna, in the spring of this year. "Many concerns," he says, "have been forced to close their foreign branches and can barely keep their home plants going because of excessive taxation."

### FINLAND COMPLETES ITS STATE BUDGET FOR 1934

The Government of Finland has completed its budget for 1934 which shows that the current revenue of the State is estimated at almost 200,000,000 marks more than in the budget for 1933. The report states that it is not proposed to impose any new or increased taxes. The revenue increase is said to be due to the anticipation of a higher yield from customs duties, and from the income and property taxes. The budget provides a surplus of 39,000,000 marks, 34,500,000 marks of which will be required for covering the deficit in the finance account of the State for 1932.

### VALUE OF FOREIGN TRADE OF NORWAY FOR SIX MONTH PERIOD

The complete data of the foreign trade of Norway for the first half year of 1933 shows a continued favorable ratio between imports and exports. The surplus of imports was 53,200,000 kroner as against 67,000,000 kroner for the six months of 1932. The value of exports was well maintained with 265,700,000 kroner. Exports of pulp, paper, and kindred products totaled 63,000,000 kroner. Exports of fertilizers increased from 17,000,000 kroner to 24,500,000 kroner for the six month period in 1933.

### DECREASE IN PROFITS OF DANISH SHIPPING COMPANIES

The financial status of thirteen of the most important shipping companies is given in a report issued by the Danish Shipowners' Association. From this it is seen that the profits of these companies in 1932, as compared with their share capital and tonnage employed, is only about one-seventh of the profits of the year 1929. The *Scandinavian Shipping Gazette*, commenting on this state of affairs, declares that the subsidies, direct or indirect, granted by a number of countries, do much damage to Danish shipping. Ship sales at low prices to countries whose expenses for wages and food are much below those paid in Denmark and other Scandinavian countries are also held responsible for the poor results.

### RIISING SWEDISH PRICE LEVEL NOTED

The latest official report by the Swedish Board of Trade shows that the wholesale price level is increasing steadily. The greatest increase is registered for finished manufactures which have advanced from 107 to 110, while raw materials and semi-finished goods rose by 1 point in one month.

### TRANSVAAL FURNISHING MOST OF WORLD'S GOLD

In view of the importance of gold as a medium of exchange, the fact is noted that the Transvaal of South Africa has been the leading producer of the yellow metal since 1900, and has made a new record in each of the last eight years. The Union of South Africa has gone off the gold standard, and the *London Times* states that this will enable the mines to reduce cost of production, to work immense amounts of low-grade ore, and to open up new areas. Next to South Africa, Canada is the largest producer of gold, and has taken second place from the United States.

JULIUS MORITZEN

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*Niels Skovgaard's Statue of Grundtvig Kneeling. Cut by the Artist in Bornholm Granite and Raised in the Court of Vartov in 1933*

*(See page 482)*

# THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

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## Our Power

*A Few Simple Thoughts About  
the Conditions of Human Life*

BY ARCHBISHOP ERLING EIDEM

WHEN WE REFLECT on mankind and on human life, we cannot but be astonished at the extent of man's power. Marvelous are the attributes of the human body. We need only think of man's upright walk; on the small surface of the foot we can without effort sustain the entire weight of the body. Or let us consider human speech; by means of certain definite sounds we can communicate with one another. We use language as a matter of course, but how strange it is after all! From speech our thought goes naturally to the written word, which is also a brilliant example of mankind's achievement. Certain simple, accepted signs enable us to know what is in the heart of another person.

Or let us think of all the knowledge that is at our command. The wonderful world of history lies open before us; it allows us to see and know human beings who lived hundreds and thousands of years ago. By means of the spoken and written word the genius of man is led on to ever new conquests in the realm of research. The laws of thought, the endowments of the soul, reveal mysterious depths into which our reflection may penetrate.

We may furthermore remind ourselves of the tremendous victories which the mind of man has won in nature and the visible world. The breeding of new plant forms shows astonishing results. The advance of mechanical knowledge is prodigious. The gigantic ship, the rapid auto-

mobile, the flying-machine poised in the air, are marvels of human invention.

We may with excellent reason lay down the thesis:

*Great is the power of man.*

\* \* \*

Yet this power is circumscribed.

Over the ancient Greek temple to Apollo was inscribed the wise admonition: "Know thyself!" These words became the motto of the sage Socrates.

It is true that love of life and faith in the potency of effort and energy are good things. Nevertheless, man, if he is honest, will quickly and painfully become aware of his limitations. "Know thyself" then means: Know not only how great but also how small is your power, and not less: Teach yourself to understand how little you can do in comparison with what you cannot do.

Here again we need only mention a few obvious examples.

Let us think of conditions in the community of which we are a part. Let us consider what we are in the habit of calling social and economic problems. That conditions are not good, or at least that there is much room for improvement, is as plain as can be. Some live in luxury while others suffer want. Many a man who seeks work cannot find it, while others are idlers and drones. Yet, in spite of all plans and all attempts to correct the inequalities in the existing order, it would seem as though human beings are unable to master this vital and urgent task: to create a community in which righteousness and good-will shall hold sway. Is man then powerless? Can he do nothing?

Or let us think of health and sickness. However far the science of healing progresses—and it has progressed wonderfully far and will surely go much further—there is always a point, and that point not very distant, at which even the ablest of physicians must confess his impotence. Over life and death man has indeed but a limited power. He cannot create life from the lifeless substance. Before Death, the all-powerful, he must yield, no matter how much he may kick against the pricks.

Or let us, in conclusion, reflect on the deepest secrets of life: What is life, its purpose, its goal? Into these problems, incomparably the most important of all, no human intelligence can penetrate. We must admit, therefore, that what we can grasp and comprehend is very little compared to that which we cannot understand or master.

We must in the end formulate another thesis and set it by the side of the first. If the first was, "Great is the power of man," the second is the exact opposite:

*Small is the power of man.*

\* \* \*

But let us go on. What we call "great" and what we call "small" is, after all, something indefinite, something that can be measured only in its relation to something else. Yet there is within us another world, the realm of conscience and ethics, where we use another measuring-rod.

As human beings we live in two worlds—an outer and an inner. In the outer world we are only partially free; in fact we are very much bound, but in the inner world we are free to make up our minds. We may choose between good and evil. Over the external event our power is very limited, and whether we succeed in our striving or not is very uncertain. But the sincere purpose is dependent on the will of man, not on external circumstances. The honest will to choose the right is and remains an absolute good.

One thing then is within the power of man: to proceed on his way, straight ahead, in all honesty and sincerity. Calamity may strike him, and adversity mock his purposes; he may be misunderstood by his fellowmen and have to go through life alone, but the testimony of a clear conscience will sustain him through all this. He may lift his head in confidence: he is master of his soul, subject to nothing and no one.

And so we may set down our third thesis beneath the other two. After saying, "Great is the power of man," and "Small is the power of man," we now say:

*One thing is within the power of man.*

\* \* \*

Have we now finished our brief survey of human life, or is there something more to add? I for my part am convinced that we need a fourth, and underneath the three foregoing theses we now set down a fourth:

*Nothing is in the power of man.*

This last thesis seems bound to make us very much discouraged. It would seem as though mankind were going from bad to worse. First we said that man's power was great, then that it was small, then that it consisted of only one thing, and finally that it was nothing at all.

It would certainly seem discouraging. But remember what we said about this one thing. It is really man's patent of nobility, far nobler and

more significant than all that we discussed under the first "great" or "small." Conscience is far greater than all the genius and all the achievements that can be named.

At the same time the world of conscience bears within it a danger of a very serious kind. He who thinks and talks too much about his goodwill, his honest purpose, is in danger of becoming vain and self-conscious.

From this temptation nothing but a simple faith may save us. He who sincerely believes in God will know that all good is a gift of the Almighty. He will remember that man can do nothing of his own power and take nothing of himself. On the other hand—and this is most important of all—the sense of dependence contains in itself a glad tidings. He who looks to God with unaffected humility and childlike trust, will receive everything from his Heavenly Father.

It is a blessed thing to forget ourselves and look to God for all. It is good to feel our own weakness and pray to God: "Guide Thou my feet that they may tread the path of righteousness." Surely no one can be safer in the vicissitudes of this life than he who can confess his faith that "to them that love God all things work together for good."

Blessed he whose life is given  
To the guidance of the Lord,  
Though he by cruel fate be driven,  
God his mind will peace afford.  
Calm he is in grief and pain,  
Life or death no fears contain,  
He is always blessings reaping,  
And is safe in God's own keeping.\*

\*Swedish Hymn Book 257, 10. Translation by E. Gustav Johnson.





*Jonas Lie, from a Pencil Drawing by Christian Krohg, 1893*

## Jonas Lie

1833-1909

BY HANNA ASTRUP LARSEN

**J**ONAS LIE belongs to the classic age of Norwegian literature in which the great names are Ibsen, Björnson, Lie, and Kielland. Different as they were, they had in common that they wrote for a national, and to some extent for an international audience. It was

before the time when authors began to divide the country into small bailiwicks which they cultivate intensively; and the modern predilection for writing of the poorest and most primitive, those absorbed in the hand-to-mouth struggle for existence, had not won ground. The writers of the period chose their topics from all parts of the country and gave us a broad, varied picture of life as it was lived by all classes.

This is especially true of Jonas Lie. His contemporaries read him with the delight of recognition. To their children—and this is true also of American descendants of old Norwegian families—his books are like a glimpse into the homes of their grandparents. Even now the youngest generation in Norway reads him much as we read Jane Austen, enjoying at once the glamour of distance and the charm of familiarity.

When his books have lasted so well, it is in part because he, almost alone among his contemporaries, refused to obey the parole from Copenhagen and turn his stories into debating platforms for the problems of the day. As a consequence the Brandes brothers ignored him. Lie was responsive to new ideas, and used them in his own fashion, but he thought his countrymen were quite too ready to swallow whole any new theory that was imported from abroad. He never joined in the attack on established institutions which was then the order of the day. He never broke with Christianity, though on the other hand he never in his books described any religious experience. In matters of sex he maintained a fastidious reserve. The popular shouting from the housetops about "free" love was abhorrent to him.

In touching so gingerly two subjects of such vital importance to mankind as religion and sex, he naturally limited his scope, but within the field he had chosen he was so keen and yet so genial, so wise and witty and humorous, and so scintillating with life, that we gladly forget his limitations. With admirable poise and decision he held to his own way, and though his contemporaries may have called him old-fashioned, he seems to us more modern than they.

JONAS LIE was born just a hundred years ago, November 6, 1833. By the accident of his father's having held at that time a post in Hongsund, Buskerud, the birthplace of the future author was in southern Norway, but both his parents were natives of the North. His father's family came from a farm on the north slope of Dovre, and had removed to Trondhjem, where they became tradesmen and later entered the professional class. They were a strong, self-willed, hard-headed, capable race, interested in business and politics. His mother



was a strange contrast to the Lies. She was a gifted, sensitive, imaginative creature with an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and a taste for dressing her small dark person in bright reds and yellows not at that time usually worn by sober matrons in the official class. Her son thought she had Lapp blood, and was proud of it.

It was his theory that almost any family in Nordland would be found, upon investigation, to have a drop of Lapp blood; that the seductive power of the small nomad people had lured Norwegian men from their Nordic pride and even led high-born women to leave their homes and mate with the humble Lapp. From these unions—begun long before Harold Fairhair loved the Lapp girl told about in the sagas, and persisting down through the centuries—a mystic, poetic, imaginative strain had entered the harder, more matter-of-fact nature of the Norwegians. He realized that in his own nature there were two persons, the practical man and the dreamer, and it was thus he explained himself to himself.

Fortunately for literature, his parents removed to Tromsø in Arctic Norway when Jonas was only five years old. It seems a pity that he could not have lived to see Tromsø as the port of airships; one can imagine how they would have delighted him. But there was plenty even in his day to occupy a lively boy. He hated school, but was interested in ships and shoes and sealing-wax and cabbages and kings—especially ships. Foreign sailors and native fishermen brought tales of adventure, not only with wind and waves but with the horrible Draug who sails his ship with a crew of dead men. Lapps and Finns added a thrill of magic and heathenism. Russian traders in their queer boats and wearing their oriental garb lent another exotic note. "They peeled and ate mushrooms which they had picked on the island. We boys thought they were certainly poisonous to anybody except Russians," he afterwards wrote in the little story *Susamel*, in which he describes his boyhood.

Jonas wanted to go to sea. His father, who had followed the sea a few years as a youth, at a time when the family fortunes were low, did not want his son to ship before the mast, but proposed to make a naval officer of him. Thus Lie added to his experiences a period at the naval cadet institute at Fredriksværn, a background which he afterwards utilized in his novel *The Commandant's Daughters*. He never became a naval officer, however, as he was found to be too nearsighted. He had to go back to school.

He managed to matriculate at the University, though his standings were not very good. About that time he became engaged to his cousin,

Thomasine Lie. She was the daughter of a country lawyer, and it may have been her influence that led him to choose law as his professional study, or it may be that he felt the necessity of coming to grips with the dreamer in himself. This time he passed his examinations with excellent

standings. Some articles that he wrote on the legal aspects of certain political questions were thought so original and incisive that, on the strength of them, Björnson offered to get him a position as editor of a daily paper. But Lie refused to be a candidate for the post. He wanted to earn his living by law and business and keep his writing free of entanglements.

Lie opened a law office at Kongsvinger, a small town in the rich lumber district of eastern Norway, and was so successful that in about a year he could marry his Thomasine. The young couple soon became the center of a lively social circle. His amiability and whimsical humor, her tact and poise, made them popular. He wrote but little in this period except verse for special



*Thomasine and Jonas Lie, about 1870*

occasions, but he became familiar with a type of people that he had never known before. It was just at the time when people had begun to realize the commercial value of the forests. In his novel *A Marriage* Jonas Lie later described the boom of the 1860's. Land that had passed from father to son for centuries was thrown on the market and changed hands several times in one year. Lumber went down the river for export, while pianos, champagne, and carriages came up on the new railroad. Lie was fascinated by the life and stir. Characteristically, he wasted no regrets on the romantic past. Many of the types in his novels are drawn from this period. There is Jakob Mörk, the young lawyer in

*A Marriage* who makes money hand over fist, but finds himself suddenly on the brink of ruin. There is the vapid "Lord" Johnny in *A Maelstrom* who brings on the dissolution and fall of a once powerful old house; and there is the parvenu, John Sunde, in the short story of that name, who makes money on the lumber, but has to box up his vigorous outdoor nature in deference to the "fine" society he has entered.

The end came in a terrible crash that ruined the whole countryside, but it was gay going while it lasted. Unfortunately Lie had not contented himself with studying types, but had joined in the speculation, with the result that he found himself involved to the tune of several hundred thousand kroner. This made it impossible for him to continue his law practice at Kongsvinger. With his wife and three little children—two having died at Kongsvinger—he set out for the capital, feeling about as lost and helpless as a stick of timber floating down the current on the broad bosom of the Glommen River, but sure that he too would reach the port of destiny. He was resolved to reimburse all those who had lost money through him, and for many years he continued to pour his earnings into that bottomless hole, until his friends convinced him that it was hopeless.

For the present, however, he had more than enough to do to make a bare living for his family, and gladly accepted any little job, writing, teaching, or secretarial work, that his friends could turn his way. The struggles of this period, when he was always hovering on the brink of starvation and never quite falling in, gave the impulse to his inimitable humorous short story *Butcher-Tobias* dealing with the life of the very humblest and poorest. One thing, at least, he had learned from his disaster, namely, that his calling was literature and nothing else.

In 1870 Jonas Lie published the short novel *Second Sight* (*Den Fremsynte*), the first of the books that were to establish him firmly as one of the great masters of Norwegian literature. Though he was then thirty-seven years old, it had the freshness and spontaneity of a first book. Its eerie loveliness justified Björnson's oft-quoted description of it as "a white gull cleaving our grey fog." The story of the love between the gifted but mentally sick boy, David Holst, and the warm, impetuous, generous girl, Susanne, is singularly touching in its white innocence. It is seen on a background of dark Northern superstition, with the glamour of nightless summers and the terror of winter storms.

On the strength of this book, Lie was given a government stipend for further study in the far North and also an award which enabled him afterwards to go with his family to Italy, then the goal of all Scandi-

navian artists and writers. After that time the Lies lived much abroad, chiefly in Paris, spending their summers in Berchtesgaden, where also the Ibsens used to come.

After another novel of Nordland life and some short stories, Lie scored another complete success with *The Pilot and His Wife* (*Lodsen og hans Hustru*, 1874). Then followed another period of fumbling during which he published two less happy novels of Kristiania life, *Thomas Ross* and *Adam Schrader*. But in 1880 came a masterly sea story, *Rutland*, and in 1882 *Go Ahead* (*Gaa paa*), another immensely popular book. These sea stories, so called, are not novels of adventure, but simply pictures of family life in the great Norwegian seafaring class. It is true, in *The Pilot and His Wife* we follow Salve Kristiansen through the storm and stress of his deep-sea voyages and through some hairbreadth escapes both on sea and in port, but the real story is the effect of this life on Salve's character. He comes back warped and soured and suspicious, and takes it out on his wife whom he loves passionately but suspects of hankering after a "finer" lot than he can give her. Elisabeth's love makes her timid, and she submits to his humors with a meekness entirely foreign to her own nature, until at last she resolves to be herself, to meet him frankly and proudly, and tell him that she will bear it no longer. With this the spell is broken, and the couple enter upon a happier time. It was a fine book for the feminists!

*Rutland* is also a story of married life and the trials of strength between two vigorous natures. It begins with an apotheosis of the old tough ships that ploughed the North Sea, and most of the action takes place on board the *Rutland* which Captain Kristensen owns and Mrs. Kristensen bosses. Though we seldom leave coast waters, there is a salty taste of the sea in this book that is unequalled in Jonas Lie's work. In its unity and close-knit structure, its broad humor and vivid coloring, it is one of his best books.

Next to marriage the subject that interested Lie most was work. The hero of *Go Ahead*, Rejer Jansen Juhl, was born of an old, old family in an old, old moss-grown house in a stagnant valley where people never did anything that their fathers had not done before them. He "took the cork out of the fjord," went after the herring in the family church boat—thus smashing all traditions—led the neighbors out to sea with him, and brought the salty current of new ideas into the valley. It is astonishing how many of these energetic, enterprising young men Lie has created, without letting them become priggish or himself becoming didactic. Perhaps it is because he is so joyous about them. Among them all there is none more individualized than the tall,





*Thomasine and Jonas Lie, from a Painting by Eyolf Soot*

ungainly, obstinate Rejer Jansen Juhl in whom the lust of action burns like a fierce fire.

In 1883 Lie again created a masterpiece, *The Family at Gilje*. There he returned to the milieu to which he himself belonged by birth

and education, the professional, or official, class. It describes life in the 1840's on one of the residences where government officials were forced to spend their lives far up in the mountain valleys, separated by many days of rough travel on bad roads from the social life they were used to, and rarely seeing anyone of their own class. The mother wears herself out in the endless tasks of the great household with its army of servants and dependents. The two beautiful daughters are driven or cajoled to marry elderly suitors, because their young lovers cannot provide homes for them; the weaker, Thinka, submits, but the stronger, Inger-Johanne, rebels at the last moment and chooses spinsterhood rather than a brilliant marriage without love. The brother runs away from home and goes to America (a favorite mode of escape in Norwegian novels and plays of the time) in order to follow his bent and do practical work. The book is an indictment of a social system, and the author has even provided himself with a spokesman in the person of the derelict genius, Grip, who loves Inger-Johanne and is loved by her. Yet *The Family at Gilje* has none of the faults of propaganda. It deals with living people whom we seem actually to know. In spite of its tragic conflicts, it has an idyllic quality and a strange, frangible beauty by virtue of which it is generally regarded as the high point in Jonas Lie's authorship.

The subject of the young daughters of good families thwarted in their desire for happiness is taken up by Lie again in his two following books. In *A Maelstrom* it is treated with a crasser realism, and in *The Commandant's Daughters* (*Kommandörens Döttr*) with a more bitter scorn of the votaries of conventional repression.

When Jonas Lie has been regarded—and deservedly—as the champion of women, it is not merely because he revealed their sufferings under the old social system and showed up the selfishness of fathers, brothers, and husbands, but because he created and made popular a new type of heroine. He never in all his life perpetrated one of those old-fashioned heroines who roused Camilla Collett's rage, such as Solveig sitting in one spot waiting for the old rascal Peer Gynt, or Ingebjörg in *The Pretenders* with her "To love, to sacrifice all, and be forgotten is woman's saga." Jonas Lie's women are the equals of their men, demanding much, but giving freely and generously. All find their chief life content in love, but if love fails, they accept no compromise, and are able to stand alone. In *A Marriage* love dribbles out of the relation because Letta Mörk attempts to reduce love to sentimentality and does not know how to be a companion to her husband.

The inspiration for Jonas Lie's strong-willed, warm-hearted heroines came from his wife, Thomasine Lie, who was his faithful helpmeet, his secretary and censor, and even to some extent a collaborator in his writings. It is easy to detect the keen eye and deft hand of a woman in the countless minute details of domestic life that lend such actuality to his novels.

Kristian Elster makes the interesting suggestion that this close collaboration was not entirely fortunate. He thinks Fru Thomasine, with her more rationalistic outlook, suppressed the poet and the mystic in her husband. It is known that she discarded about half the manuscript of *Second Sight*; and Arne Garborg in his sympathetic life of Lie relates that there were sometimes little domestic struggles before the publication of a book, when the author defended something that she wanted to censor. But however interesting it may be to speculate on what Lie might have done, one thing is certain: he won and retained his large public by his novels of everyday people and everyday events seen in the full light of day.

As he grew older, however, the undercurrent of his mind came to the surface, and appeared more frequently in his work. Gradually, modern theories of evolution, determinism, and heredity entered into a subtle union with memories of Lapp sorceries and Northern superstitions. Even table rappings and hypnotism interested him as related phenomena. He conceived of human beings as still in part bound by the mysterious forces of nature which lie within the personality "like an immovable rock, or a capricious sea, or an overpowering storm." Superstition, fear of the dark, and fear of ghosts he designated as "the earliest effort of mankind to liberate itself and detach itself from the primeval." He believed that a study of how these "troll" forces follow a man into civilized life might yield surprising results.

With this in mind he wrote his two collections of short stories, *Trolls* (1891-1892). Like Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales, they are original compositions, though based on tales of Lapp magic and Norwegian superstitions about the Draug, the *huldre*, and the trolls. Not all are equally successful, but some are classics of their kind. Elster points out how Lie, in order to write them, had to cultivate an entirely different style. Abandoning the abrupt, impressionistic, scintillating style that had been a perfect vehicle for his novels, he wrote with an epic simplicity and a purity of outline such as we find in the best folk lore. Some are broadly humorous, but the deepest note is one of pathos. It is the tragedy of earthbound humanity helpless in the grip of mysterious forces.





*Fru Thomasine Lie, from a Painting by Halfdan Ström*

After *Trolls* Jonas Lie returned to the writing of novels somewhat in the old manner, but there is present in his work a new consciousness of strange forces. This is suggested even in the name *Evil Powers* (*Onde Magter*, 1890), the story of rivalry between two small-town magnates. An increasingly pessimistic view of life is seen in *Niobe* (1893) where the author pays his respects to a type of that day which he particularly disliked, the young man who poses as a genius because he is too lazy to do honest work. The book ends with a strange and rather improbable tragedy, the mother blowing up her house with herself and her good-for-nothing brood. *Dyre Rein* (1896) returns to a scene resembling that of *The Family at Gilje*, the residence of a country magistrate with a houseful of pretty daughters; but the idyl is violently shattered. Dyre Rein, engaged to the youngest daughter, is conscious of some evil or at least earthy force symbolized by a birthmark like a



*Jonas Lie, from a Painting by Halfdan Ström*

beast's claw on his back, and on the eve of his marriage he seeks death in the waterfall. *East of the Sun and West of the Moon and Beyond the Tower of Babylon* (*Östenfor Sol og vestenfor Maane og bakenom Babylons Taarn*, 1905) is the story of professional jealousy among scientists, and each chapter is prefaced by a parallel chapter describing the struggle among beasts of the jungle or fishes of the sea.

Though these later works by Jonas Lie lack the charm and vivacity of his middle period, they are all interesting in their revelation of less frequently explored depths in human life.

In his old age Jonas Lie, like Ibsen, returned to Norway to spend his declining years in the homeland, which he perhaps loved all the more fervently for his long exile. In 1906 he and his wife settled in a home at Fredriksværn, but they were not to enjoy it long. She died in 1907, he in 1909.



*Alfred Nobel, Born 1833, Died 1896*

## Alfred Nobel, Founder of the Nobel Prizes

BY JOHN LANDQUIST

**A**LFRED NOBEL, inventor of dynamite and founder of the Nobel Prizes, belonged to an old Swedish family of fine cultural traditions. The name was formerly Nobelius, a Latinized form of Nöbbelöv, the home of the family in Skåne. Its first member of whom we have any record was Petrus Nobelius who studied at Uppsala in the 1680's and became a district judge in Uppland. Alfred Nobel's

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father, Immanuel Nobel, first gave the family that bent for technical and industrial work which was followed by his sons, Robert, Ludvig, and Alfred, and was destined to make the family one of the most famous industrial houses in Europe.

Immanuel Nobel, though inadequately trained, possessed a natural gift for invention and a power of initiative which were to carry him quite far in his changeful career. He lived for some time in Stockholm as an inventor and builder, but after having failed in business, he emigrated to Finland and from thence to St. Petersburg. Through the good offices of a Russian general, he succeeded in getting the Government interested in some land and sea mines that he had constructed, and for the money he received for them he acquired a machine shop. This venture was successful, and during the Crimean War, 1854 to 1856, Nobel had a genuine boom. His marine mines were taken into use after it had been proved that those constructed by the Russians themselves were worthless. Nobel's mines were laid out in the Gulf of Finland where they were regarded with much respect by the British navy. He also built steam engines for Russian warships. But peace was declared, and the new Government broke the promise of the former to keep Nobel's shop going with its orders. After struggling along a few years, he had to leave it in the hands of his creditors. Ruined for the second time, he returned to Sweden in 1859. From that time on, Fortune shunned his path, and he could do nothing during the last years of his life but to assist his son Alfred who started his first venture in Stockholm.

### Building a World Industry

Ludvig and Robert Nobel had remained in Russia and again won a foothold there. Ludvig was engaged by his father's creditors to manage the machine shop they had taken over, and in this position he was able to save enough so that he could buy for himself a smaller machine shop equipped especially for the manufacture of firearms. He also succeeded in reestablishing himself in the confidence of the Russian government.

Robert went to Helsingfors, Finland, where he had a small business in illuminating oils. Here he became familiar with petroleum and had his attention directed to the processes of refining it—a fact that was to be very important later. In 1870 he entered his brother Ludvig's business at St. Petersburg. In manufacturing firearms they needed for the butts of the rifles a certain kind of wood which was found in Caucasia, and in 1873 Robert went there to arrange for a supply. Thus he came

to see the naphtha wells in Baku, which were being utilized in a very primitive way. It struck him that an enormous saving could be made by conveying the oil in pipes from Balakhani to Baku, a distance of ten kilometers, instead of by the cumbersome method of filling barrels and loading them on heavy trucks. He consulted his brother, and in 1875 they bought a naphtha field. He invented new ways of refining the oil and in a short time was able to deliver a product as good as the American oil and much cheaper. Now Alfred Nobel also advanced money for the enterprise.

In ten years the business developed into a world industry, expanding with a swiftness that has few parallels anywhere. Ludvig Nobel built tank steamers and tank wagons for transportation of the oil on the railroads. For some years the Nobel oil refineries held their place as the largest in the world. They handled two billion kilograms of naphtha in a year and employed a force of 1,500 clerical and professional workers and 12,500 laborers. They provided for their employees by building homes for them, establishing pensions and schools, and in other ways setting a standard that had never been heard of in Russia before.

Unfortunately the strain of pioneering work, together with the unhealthy climate, broke down the health of both brothers while yet in their prime. Robert had to retire already in 1879. Ludvig then managed the business alone, but died in 1888. The latter's son Immanuel succeeded him and continued in the traditions of his father. In 1920 the Soviet government took over the business without paying any compensation to the owners.

### A Lonely Man

Alfred Nobel's life was filled with hard work, and distinguished by some fabulous successes, but was poor in personal happiness. He spent the greater part of his time on business journeys or in his laboratory. His unsettled and roving existence prevented him from establishing a home of his own. No woman was ever close to him except his mother, to whom he gave a lifelong devotion and loving care. He would often go to Sweden only to spend her birthday with her. This wealthy, famous, and much envied man often felt himself lonely and homeless. In his few leisure hours this sense of loneliness sank deep into his nature and strengthened an original tendency to melancholy. He once wrote an eloquent confession in a letter to his sister-in-law, Edla, wife of his brother Ludvig Nobel:

"What a contrast between us! You, surrounded by love, happiness, noise, pulsating life, cherishing and cherished, caressing and caressed,



anchored in contentment; I restlessly roaming without compass or rudder, like a useless wreck broken by fate, with no bright memories of the past and no false but fair glamour over the future, without the vanity which is a gross but convenient self-beautifier, without children who are our only continued life after this, without friends or enemies for the natural development of my heart and my gall respectively, but with a power of self-criticism that shows every blemish in unvarnished ugliness and every weakness in the full light of day. A portrait with such outlines has no place in the home of happiness and contentment."

A mingling of pride and melancholy made Nobel indifferent to his own biography and averse to any publicity regarding himself. He refused photographs and interviews to the newspapers and could never be persuaded to have his portrait painted. When his brother Ludvig, in the interests of the family genealogy, asked him for some facts about himself, he refused to give them. He explained that there were "no important events" in his life, and added: "Who has time to read biographies, and who would be so naïve or so kind as to be interested in them? That is the question I ask myself in all seriousness."

Not that Alfred Nobel lacked ambition, but his ambition was directed towards higher goals and sought its satisfaction in special achievements. He wanted his inventions and his donations to benefit mankind. He might have said, in the words of the philosopher Bergson: "He who knows with absolute conviction that he has created something good stands above honors." If Nobel felt, as he naturally must have felt, satisfaction in his triumphs, he kept it to himself, and this silence is in harmony with his whole manner of living. The want of personal ties and affections tended to direct his thoughts and dreams towards humanity as a whole. He was always interested in metaphysical problems; he admired poets of idealistic tendencies such as the Englishman Shelley and his own countryman Rydberg, and in the later years of his life he became absorbed in plans for preserving peace among nations.

### The Inventor of Dynamite

Nobel's indifference to the facts of his own life has given his biographers much trouble. We know, for instance, that at the age of eighteen or nineteen he made a study trip to the United States, but where he went, what he studied, and how long he stayed there we do not know. Our only clue is a letter, written in 1852, in which he refers to "the time I was in America." We also know that in the same period he spent some time in Paris, but the details are lacking here also. We may infer that these trips during the years of his youth gave him that

excellent knowledge of languages which stood him in good stead when he came to travel abroad securing patents and forming companies.

ALFRED NOBEL was born in Stockholm, October 21, 1833. His first school-years were spent in his native city, but at the age of nine he removed with the family to St. Petersburg, where his education was continued under the direction of a tutor.

After visits to foreign countries, he received further practical training in his father's factory. In 1862 he invented Nobel's detonator, an exceedingly important discovery by which it became possible to utilize nitroglycerin as an explosive. In fact it laid the foundation of the entire modern manufacturing of explosives. In 1863 he moved to Stockholm in order to work together with his father, who had always been interested in this problem, and together they set about to utilize the discovery in a practical way.

In the very beginning a terrible calamity struck them and threatened to put a stop to all their work. They had equipped an experimental factory in Heleneborg, Stockholm, but one day when they were trying out a mixture of gunpowder and nitroglycerin—another of Alfred Nobel's inventions—the factory was blown up and five persons met their death, among them the youngest of the Nobel brothers, Emil. The father was quite broken by this blow. The accident roused public opinion against the dangerous stuff they handled, and they were forbidden to manufacture it within the city limits. But Alfred Nobel did not lose faith in the future of his discovery. Only a month later he formed a stock company for the manufacture and utilization of nitroglycerin.

The first manufacturing had to take place on a barge on Lake Mälaren near Stockholm until permission could be secured to build a factory on land. Soon the building and mining industries in Sweden learned to utilize nitroglycerin, and before the year was out it was used in blasting the tunnel under Södermalm for the new railway. Its immense effectiveness as a labor-saver was thus for the first time demonstrated, and next year the new explosive was generally adopted in Swedish mines.

Alfred Nobel had much greater plans, however. He wanted to found a world industry. He went abroad to secure patents and organize companies in the larger countries. The fight was hard against prejudices and fears roused again by renewed accidents, against competition, and against intrigues from patent thieves and the sharks of finance. By untiring efforts he succeeded, and in May 1865 formed in Hamburg his first foreign company. It was called Alfred Nobel und



Co. and still exists under the name *Dynamit-Aktien-Gesellschaft* formerly *Alfred Nobel und Co.*, occupying a leading place in the German explosives industry. In 1866 he went to America and formed the *United States Blasting Oil Company* which, after a long struggle with competitors, was absorbed in the *Atlantic Giant Powder Company*. In 1871 he founded a dynamite factory at Ardeer on the west coast of Scotland, which was to become one of the greatest in the world. In the 1870's he also founded dynamite companies in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Hungary. The majority of the companies in Great Britain and Germany were combined in 1886 into the *Nobel Dynamite Trust Company* with a capital of two million pounds sterling.

In order to prevent the accidents caused by the liquid nitroglycerin, Nobel had experimented with a solid absorbent, and it was these experiments that led to the discovery of dynamite in 1866. His factory now began the manufacture of this explosive, and in 1875 it was followed by an explosive gelatin, which was yet another step toward safety. As it is scarcely at all affected by water, it is especially adapted for blasting under water. In 1887 Nobel made his discovery of the smokeless gunpowder called ballistite or Nobel powder, which was adopted first by the Italian government and later came into general use in the armies and navies of many other countries.

In the development of explosives, dynamite is the most important next after gunpowder, and unlike gunpowder the Nobel explosives have been used chiefly for peaceful objects. Dynamite has blasted tunnels, opened mines, and facilitated the building of railway tracks and highways, not least across the American continent. By the use of dynamite the *Saint Gotthard Tunnel* was completed at a saving of nearly four million dollars in money and years of time.

Dynamite has, therefore, hastened the development of our modern civilization. Modern industry and transportation rest to a large extent on the inventions of Alfred Nobel.

### **The Scientist and Pacifist**

Alfred Nobel was at the same time a great inventor and a great man of business. The giant companies by means of which he himself carried his inventions throughout the civilized world, and the fortune of many millions which he acquired in the course of twenty years, bear abundant witness to his energy and capability in the latter field. Nevertheless he lacked that love of money and profit for their own sakes which is said to be a necessary characteristic of the genuine man of business. In a letter to his brother—before whom he had surely no reason to strike an atti-

tude—he said that his greatest sin was “that he loved not Mammon”; and when he was fifty years old he wrote that he would like to wind up his business affairs and live “like an old maiden lady on the income from securities.” Not that he wished to be inactive, but he wanted to devote himself to his work as an inventor. In fact his business was a task to which he was driven by his inventions and which he carried through by sheer will power.

To a certain extent his inventions were also done as a task. There is an innate contradiction between the pacifism which he professed early in life and his efforts to find a more deadly gunpowder. As the philosopher is driven to perfect his system, so Alfred Nobel was driven to perfect his discoveries with ever new inventions. His father had devoted many years of his life to experiments for the improvement of gunpowder. His own thoughts were, naturally, directed towards the same goal, and he could not cease to think of the problems that had occupied him from his youth. He once said to the pacifist Bertha von Suttner: “My factories will make an end to war sooner than your congresses. On the day when two armies can annihilate each other in one second, all civilized nations will shrink with horror from beginning a war, and will disband their troops.” But this oft-quoted remark must be considered only as an attempt to bridge in his own mind the gap between the opposing sides of his nature.

Alfred Nobel was really not in full accord with his rôle either as business man or as inventor. He was, in fact, a contemplative nature, a little of a philosopher interested in the higher problems of life, and even a little of a poet. In his youth he wrote poems and began a novel. In his later years he wrote a drama. None of these have any literary value, but it is quite possible that if he had grown up in a different environment and received a different kind of education, he might have become a writer. At all events these literary productions reveal his emotional life and temperament. His contemplative mind, with its tendency to melancholy reflections on the insignificance of human fate and the brevity of human life, enabled him to regard himself critically and objectively as though standing outside his own experiences. His kind heart, which also during his lifetime revealed itself in numerous charities, and his wide cultural interests combined to make him a philanthropist.

That other side of his nature which could not be satisfied with his work found a magnificent expression in his bequests to science, literature, and peace amounting in all to more than thirty million kronor.

It was especially the cause of peace that occupied him during his later years. He had long been a friend of Frau Bertha von Suttner,

who had in fact once been engaged as his secretary, although her marriage prevented her from entering upon her duties. When in 1889 she published her startling book *Die Waffen nieder*, he began a discussion with her on the peace cause. He had no faith in her schemes for effecting disarmament or settlement by arbitration, but in the course of their discussion he formulated an idea which may be regarded as the prototype of the League of Nations.

He thought all governments ought to form a compact by virtue of which they would agree to defend an attacked country and make common cause against the aggressor. This league of states should maintain a standing army, and with the greater security that would result from this protection, the separate nations would reduce their armaments.

This subject is discussed in a letter written in French, October 15, 1892, to a Belgian pacifist: "I am beginning to believe that the only true solution will be a compact by which all the governments obligate themselves to collectively defend every country attacked. Such a treaty will lead little by little to a partial disarmament, in fact the only one possible, because it is necessary that there should be an armed force to maintain order."

He continues to develop the idea in a letter written to Bertha von Suttner in November of the same year: "They will say: Anything will be better than war. They will even accept the frontiers as they exist, and will declare that he who attacks will have against him the whole European coalition. Peace, assured by the force of collective armies, imposing respect on the disturber, will soon relieve the tension, and year by year the strength of the different armies will timidly but surely diminish."

In a letter of January 1893 he mentions for the first time that he is thinking of founding a peace prize. It would seem from this that his first idea of a permanent endowment had relation to the cause of peace. When he finally decided to donate the greater part of his fortune to public uses, his scientific and other cultural interests had asserted themselves. He did not believe that an individual was benefited by a large fortune, the possession of which tended to dry up the most valuable part of a personality, the power of action.

On November 27, 1895, Nobel wrote his last will and testament. He decreed that, after various legacies had been deducted, the residue of his estate should be made into a fund, the interest of which was to be divided into five equal parts and awarded annually as follows: one share each to the person who had made the most important discovery or invention in the fields of physics, chemistry, and physiology or medi-

cine; one to the person who had produced in literature the most distinguished work of an idealistic tendency; and one to the person who had most or best promoted the fraternity of nations and the abolishment or diminution of standing armies and the formation and increase of peace congresses.

The prizes in physics and chemistry were to be awarded by the Swedish Academy of Sciences; that in medicine or physiology, by Karolinske Institutet in Stockholm; that in literature, by the Swedish Academy, and the peace prize by the Norwegian Storting.

Nobel paid a tribute to his mother country when he said to one of those who witnessed the will that he was leaving the greater part of the prizes to be distributed by Swedish institutions because he had met the greatest percentage of honest persons in Sweden and consequently thought his instructions would be followed more conscientiously there than anywhere else. At the same time his broad cosmopolitan outlook is expressed by the paragraph in the will where he speaks of it as his definite desire that no attention should be paid to nationality, but the worthiest should be chosen regardless of whether or not he was a Scandinavian.

Alfred Nobel died of heart disease at the age of sixty-three, in his villa at San Remo by the Mediterranean, December 10, 1896.

### The Nobel Prizes

Several years passed before Nobel's estate could be settled. After inheritance taxes amounting to more than three million kronor had been paid on his properties scattered round about in various countries of the world, there remained 31,225,000 kronor which formed the Nobel Foundation. The prizes were awarded for the first time in 1901. At present the value of each prize is about 170,000 kronor, so that in all 850,000 kronor is distributed every year.

Quite a number of Americans have been honored by the Nobel Foundation. The prize in physics was awarded in 1907 to Professor A. A. Michelson, of Chicago; in 1923 to Professor R. A. Millikan, of Pasadena; in 1927 to Professor A. H. Compton, of Chicago. The prize in chemistry was awarded in 1914 to Professor T. W. Richards, of Harvard; in 1932 to Dr. Irving Langmuir, of Schenectady, New York. The prize in medicine was awarded in 1912 to Dr. Alexis Carrell, of the Rockefeller Institute; in 1923 to Dr. F. G. Banting, of Toronto; in 1930 to Professor Karl Landsteiner, of the Rockefeller Institute. In 1930 Sinclair Lewis received the prize in literature. No less than seven Americans have



received the peace prize, namely: Theodore Roosevelt, in 1906; Elihu Root, in 1912; Woodrow Wilson, in 1920; Charles Gates Dawes, in 1925; Frank B. Kellogg, in 1930; Jane Addams and Nicholas Murray Butler, in 1931.

Among other famous names may be mentioned Röntgen, Marconi, Einstein, Nils Bohr, recipients of the prize in physics; Madame Curie, van't Hoff, Arrhenius, Rutherford, Ostwald, Willstätter, and Soddy, in chemistry; von Behring, Finsen, Robert Koch, Richet, in physiology and medicine. Among those who have won the Nobel Prize in literature we may mention Theodor Mommsen, Björnson, Kipling, Selma Lagerlöf, Maeterlinck, Hauptmann, Tagore, Yeats, Shaw, Romain Rolland, Heidenstam, Hamsun, Anatole France, Henri Bergson, Sigrid Undset, Thomas Mann. The peace prize has been awarded to Bertha von Suttner, L. Bourgeois, Hjalmar Branting, Sir Austen Chamberlain, Aristide Briand, Gustav Stresemann, Nathan Söderblom.

The significance of the Nobel Prizes, which have now been distributed for nearly a third of a century, is too profound and manifold to be traced in detail, but we may at least say that they have enabled many scientists to continue their researches and experiments, and that they have in a high degree contributed to disseminate the books and the ideas of great writers. Their influence will continue through an incalculable future. They are a constant reminder of the peaceful interests that unite mankind above national boundaries and inhibitions.

It is a far cry from the autumn months in 1863 when the poor engineer, without his diploma, and regarded with suspicion by the public, was making his dangerous experiments in a barge on Lake Mälaren and the November day in 1895 when he signed his famous will. Within those three decades a lonely man's lifework is contained.

It would seem as though there was not much connection between Nobel's invention of explosives and his idealistic foundation for the advancement of science, literature, and peace. And yet there is a parallel. Alfred Nobel was fully convinced that even by his invention of dynamite he served the interests of humanity. Everywhere his explosives have broken down barriers, leveled roadways, and opened up the depths of the earth to the enterprises of mankind. His endowment has done the same in the moral and intellectual world. It has broken down inhibitions and smoothed the ways of human intercourse. He united in his person the technical and the idealistic mind and found no inconsistency between them. He is a representative of that high faith in culture which was characteristic of some of the best men in the nineteenth century.



# Grundtvig

By P. A. ROSENBERG

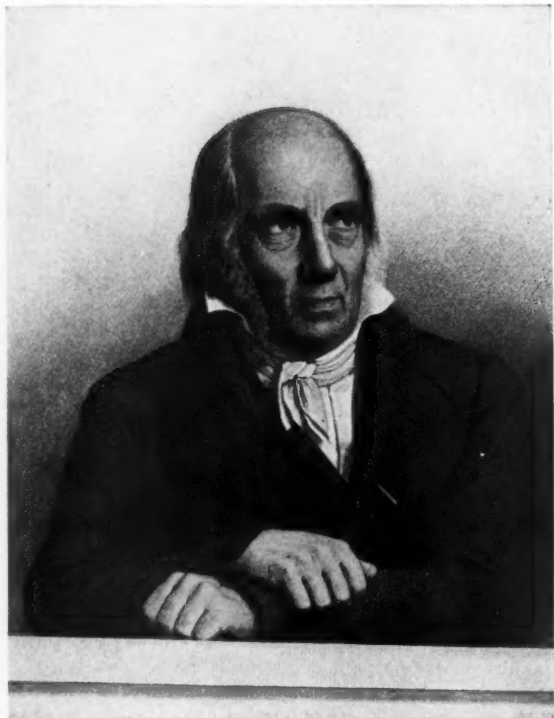
**T**HOU GREATEST spirit in the North"—with these words Björnstjerne Björnson hailed Grundtvig in a poem addressed to the aged leader; and even to this day it would be difficult to name among the great men of the Scandinavian countries any one who could dispute that title with him. Certainly, none has left a deeper impress on the spiritual life of the Northern nations.

NIKOLAJ FREDERIK SEVERIN GRUNDTVIG was born on September 8, 1783, in Udby parsonage near Vordingborg in southern Sjælland. We are therefore commemorating this year the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of his birth. His name is being honored in many circles, for his work had a remarkably wide range. We recall his contributions as pastor and churchman, as historian, as educator, as folk leader, and finally as poet and thinker. Longest of all perhaps he will be remembered for his hymns, the most beautiful in the world. A survey of the various fields in which he labored will reveal both the versatility and the unity of his mind, as well as its limitations.

## The Churchman

Grundtvig's life shows a manner of development that is rare in Denmark. Most of our great men have matured quickly. They have, as it were, unfolded with suddenness and brilliance—the poet Oehlenschläger most brilliantly of all—but there has rarely been any genuine process of development. Grundtvig, on the other hand, passed through a series of phases, often accompanied by violent spiritual upheavals, which nevertheless bore him steadily onward. For that reason the spiritual convictions he arrived at in the various stages of his experience were strong and lasting, having been won through struggle and tested by fire.

As a young man he was a rationalist. His diaries from his undergraduate years show that his mind was colored by the intellectual arrogance and platitudinous moral teaching of his day. It would seem as though he had to work his way through layer after layer of the opinions current in the age in order to arrive at a personal conviction. After passing through a spiritual and intellectual crisis that brought him to the verge of madness, he discarded rationalism, and conceived it as his mission to rouse the Danish people to a deeper understanding of the nature of Christianity than that contained in the prevalent



N. F. S. Grundtvig, from a Drawing by J. Vilh. Gertner, about 1852

rationalism which saw in Christ only a noble moralist.

The attack was opened in his probational sermon: "Why has the word of the Lord departed from His house?" As curate to his father at Udby he tried to put his principles into practice, suffering many a disappointment and going through many a spiritual struggle before he found a temporary haven in the teachings of the Bible and the writings of Luther.

But there was something in this which was not quite consistent with his inmost nature, and therefore did not satisfy him in the long run.

If the central thing in Grundtvig's personality were to be described in a single word, I think that word would be *life*. He loved life, he feared and hated death. Spirit was to him always something living; the lack of it was death. There was something incongruous, therefore, something self-contradictory in that he should be the one to point to the past. Yet in the period from 1810 to 1825 his mind dwelt constantly on the great things of the past. Almost all his poems from this period are commemorative. He became absorbed in the myths and history of the old Norsemen. He translated Saxo Grammaticus and Snorri Sturlason, and wrote dramatic poems on the Æsir and heroes of old. But often his spirit felt weary and faint with this constant dwelling in bygone ages.

The rationalistic clergy contended that actually they, too, built on the Bible and Luther, but that both these authorities must be interpreted according to the needs of the present day. When the clergy spoke thus, Grundtvig did not know how to answer them.

Then, in July 1825, he found the answer. In the light of his new vision, he published in September of the same year *The Church's*

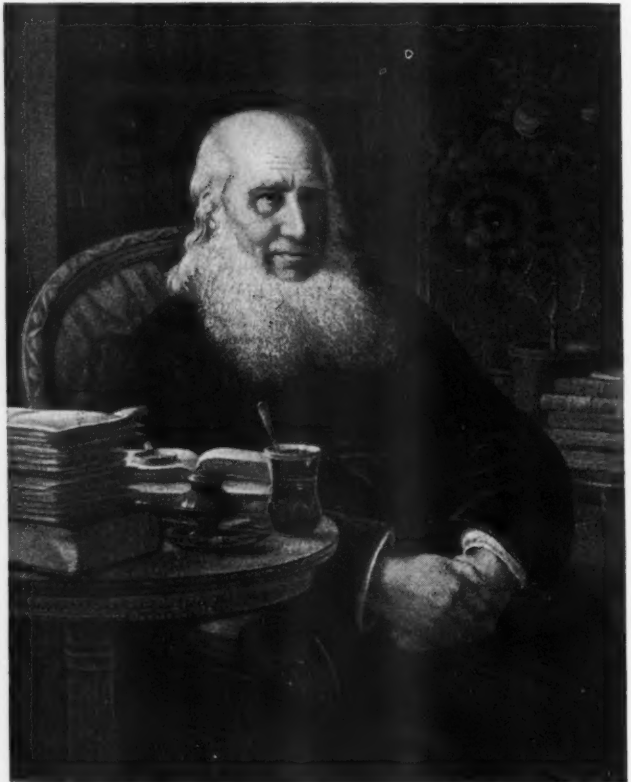
*Reply*, a violent attack on the young theologian H. N. Clausen's book on *The Nature of Christianity*. Now it was no longer the Bible, still less Luther, that told him what Christianity was. He found the decisive testimony in the Creed and the Sacraments.

This idea, which he himself called his wonderful discovery, has sometimes been interpreted to mean that he found the substance of the Christian doctrine in the three articles of faith.

But this was not the decisive thing to him; it was something else,

something more vital. When he asked himself: "Where shall I find the real answer to the question: What is true Christianity?"—the truth flashed upon him: Not in the past. A good angel, he says, whispered to him: "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" How did you become a Christian, and how did your fellow-Christians? By your baptism. That must be the answer. In the living congregation it must be found. What is required for initiation into the congregation? The renouncement of sin and the confession of faith. Even if all historical evidence of the coming of Christianity were lost, so long as baptism is practised in the Christian Church, so long as the Holy Communion is administered, as it has been down through the ages, we know by the word there spoken what true Christianity is.

By the publication of *The Church's Reply* and the subsequent writings in which he expounded his views, Grundtvig, who had always before been solitary, won for himself a circle of sympathizers. The watchword had been found, the standard erected. Now Christians



*Grundtvig in His Study at the Age of Seventy-eight, from a Painting by Wilhelm Marstrand*

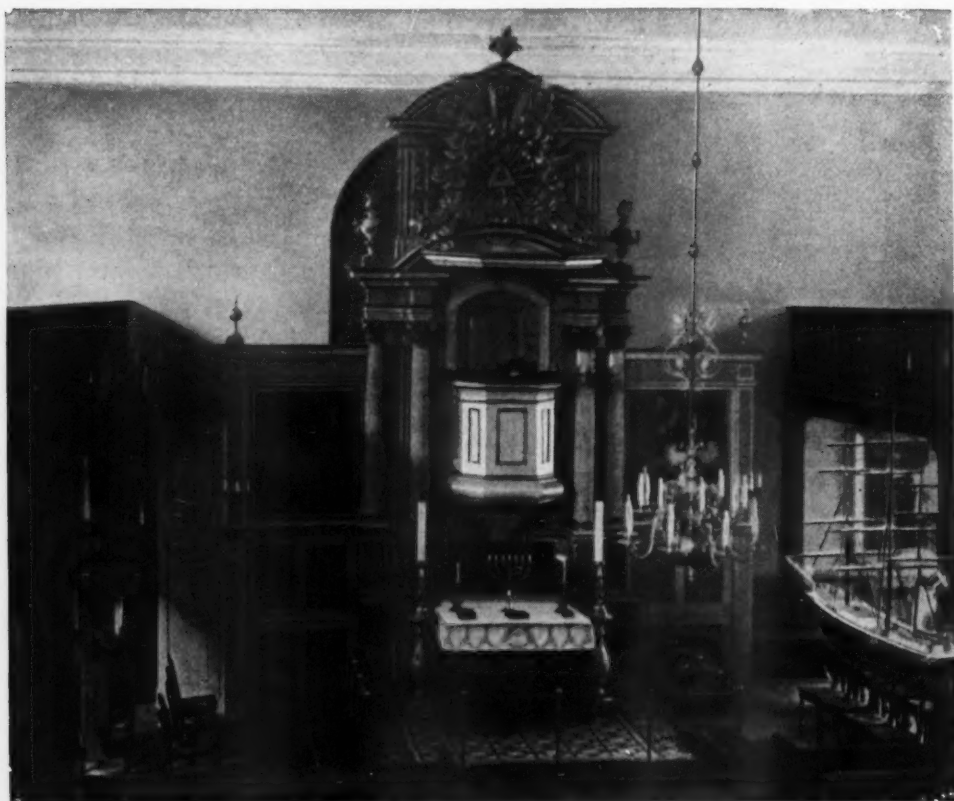
flocked to it in increasing numbers. One of them, Pastor J. C. Brandt, has given the gist of Grundtvig's philosophy, if it can be so termed, in the following words: 1) Spirit is power. 2) The spirit acts through the word. 3) The spirit acts only in freedom.

It is a remarkable fact that Grundtvig, who has written more than any other Danish author (about 30,000 printed pages) should attach so much greater value to the spoken word. Probably it was the creed itself, the oral testimony transmitted through the ages, which gave him this idea. The importance he attached to liberty found expression in his church policy, of which I shall speak later.

*The Church's Reply* was so provocative in its form that Clausen brought an action for libel. Grundtvig was fined 100 rix-dollars (which his friends paid for him), and was made subject to censorship for the rest of his life, so that nothing he wrote could be printed or published without the permission of the police censor. This ban was, however, lifted eleven years later. His curateship Grundtvig had resigned, because Bishop Münter of Sjælland, the Primate of Denmark, had forbidden the singing of some hymns he had composed for the thousandth anniversary of the Danish Church, at Whitsuntide 1826.

After the sentence on *The Church's Reply*, Grundtvig was for five years deprived of the right to hold divine service. In 1834 Mynster had succeeded Münter as bishop of Sjælland. The congregation of Our Saviour's Church at Christianshavn, where Grundtvig had held a curateship from 1822 to 1826, applied to him, asking permission for Grundtvig to preach in their church and offering to pay his salary. Mynster refused. But when the Crown Prince, later King Christian VIII, and his wife Caroline Amalie used their influence, Grundtvig was at last, in March 1831, allowed to preach in the Frederiks Church at Christianshavn, though he was forbidden to perform such church rites as baptism, confirmation, and administering Holy Communion. Here for seven years he gathered about him a faithful following, among whom were the later Bishop Martensen and Sören Kierkegaard's father. On New Year's Eve, Grundtvig applied personally to Mynster for permission to administer the sacraments in his congregation. Mynster emphatically refused. When the chaplaincy at the Vartov congregation in Copenhagen fell vacant, the Crown Prince recommended Grundtvig's application. Then Mynster finally gave in, on the ground that it was a living of a special kind (Vartov being a charitable institution for old people), and that Grundtvig would perhaps cause less unrest if he were given an office.





*Vartov Church First Used as a Chapel for the Inmates of the Vartov Hospital for Old People. Dedicated as a Church in 1855. Here Grundtvig Preached from 1839 till his Death in 1872*

This post was held by Grundtvig from 1839 to the day before his death in 1872, and the intense religious fervor of the congregation he gathered there came to influence church life throughout the North. Among those who came there to hear him were some of the prominent men in the Church and in educational work who were later to put into practice Grundtvig's historical and pedagogical ideas. Even men from the other Northern countries came to Denmark to hear him, men like Björnstjerne Björnson and Arvesen, and a large number of Swedes and Finlanders. Many have described how profoundly they were affected by the singing of his hymns. Distinguished composers like Hartmann and Barnekov had set them to music. The preaching of the master increased in fullness and clarity. For the last twenty-five years of his life he was undoubtedly the most influential man in the Church of Denmark and the object of unique homage even on the part of



former opponents. On his fiftieth anniversary as minister, in 1861, he was made titular bishop, ranking with the bishop of Sjælland. In the succeeding years, until his death, men and women from all the North flocked to great "friendly gatherings" with their revered master.

### The Historian

Grundtvig's historical outlook was determined chiefly by his religious views. Henrik Steffens had maintained, in his lectures at Copenhagen in 1802, which Grundtvig attended, that the coming of Christ to the world was "the fullness of time," the great turning-point in the history of mankind. Grundtvig took up this idea and further developed and applied it. Christianity is perfect truth revealed, but it is reflected, must be reflected, through the medium of the human mind, and no one should deny the right of his neighbor to accept it in the form adapted to his needs and his ability. To every individual it is the fullness of time when Christianity meets him with the question of whether he will receive the grace offered him. The experience of the individual is also that of the nations. The nations have their natural disposition, determined by the conditions under which they live and the innate characteristics of their race. Taine's doctrine of environment was already put forward by Grundtvig—indeed, it is one of the leading motives in his historical writings. Those who wished to know the soul of a people, he said, should in the first place go to its myths. As the dreams of a child foreshadow its future, so the myths of a people foreshadow its history. Grundtvig made a thorough study of the Northern myths about the *Æsir*, as well as the *Beowulf* of the Anglo-Saxons, and the *Nibelungenlied* of the Germans. He inquired into the ancient Greek and Hindu legends. His difficulty in seeing the historical importance of the Romans was due, among other things, to the fact that they had no mythology of their own, but borrowed that of the Greeks.

When the spirit of a nation meets with Christianity, it is "the fullness of time" for the nation, as for the individual. Each people acquires the truths of Christianity in its own way, and that way determines its history. In his great poem *Kristenhedens Syvstjerne* (*The Seven Stars of Christendom*) Grundtvig takes as his point of departure the seven congregations mentioned in the Revelation, examining the life of Christendom on earth in mighty visions of grand imagery. In the course of history the seven congregations appear as the Jewish, the Greek, the Roman, the Anglo-Saxon, the German, and the Roman congregations, and the Hindu congregation yet to come. Each of these congregations will have its individual conception of Christ, according

to its individual disposition. To the Jews he is the Messiah, and this of course is right. To the Greeks he is, no less rightly, the Conqueror of Death; to the Romans, the Bringer of Justice; to the Anglo-Saxons, "the Hero of Golgotha"; to the Germans, the Saviour from Sin by Faith; to the Northern races, the King of Truth and Freedom. And all these things he is indeed. They are the different aspects of the nature of Christ, which no man can conceive in its entirety. What he will become to the Hindus only the future can tell, but perhaps he will be more fully and deeply understood by them than ever before.

In the history of mankind Grundtvig sees something similar to the natural development of man through childhood, youth, maturity, and old age. The child plays; the young man dreams; the mature man acts; the old man remembers and reflects. Antiquity is the childhood and youth of mankind, when the imagination is at work and myths are created; the Middle Ages are its prime, the time of feeling and achievement; the present day is its old age, the time of reason and enlightenment. The principal mission of our time is to disseminate knowledge in as wide circles as possible.

### The Educator

This brings us to Grundtvig's contribution as an educator of his people. His leading idea in education was that not childhood but youth was the proper age for acquiring knowledge. During his years in the Latin school at Aarhus he had felt himself spiritually stunted, and had conceived an antipathy to "the black school." His idea was taken up by Kristen Kold and became of great importance in the history of the Danish High Schools and free schools. With all his poetic and religious idealism, Grundtvig had a fine sense of realities and much sound common sense. The plan he devised for the work in the Folk High Schools has proved feasible and fruitful, especially by helping the Danish rural population towards greater enlightenment and by teaching them a better utilization of the resources of the country. The cooperative movement in Denmark is the natural result of the work of the High Schools. In Grundtvig's opinion the first step in trying to educate the people must be to excite the interest and general curiosity of the pupil. Instruction should first be directed towards what was nearest at hand, the physical conditions of the pupil's own country, its industries, laws, and history. Then would follow in natural sequence the geography and history of other peoples. An important means of arousing the interest of the pupils was poetry and singing, which should therefore form part of every lesson. Some of Grundtvig's best popular songs were written

for the use of the High Schools. First and last, the teaching in the Danish High School was to be based on a firm belief in the truth of Christianity. This belief was the only means by which life could be understood, more especially the life of the people. Grundtvig also proposed the erection of a scientific high school at Göteborg, to replace the three Northern universities. As is well known, this idea was never realized.

### The Politician

Grundtvig took an active part in practical politics, first as a member of the Constituent Council, then as a member of the Folkething. During his repeated visits to England in 1829, 1830, and 1831, he had at Cambridge seen a high school which did not resemble the "black school" of Denmark, and which came to influence his educational ideas. He had also received a strong impression of freedom in England and of its value for the people. After his return he brought in a proposal for abolition of compulsory parish membership so that all should be freely allowed to choose whatever pastor they preferred, regardless of parish residence. A sound congregational life could thrive only in freedom. The idea was not carried through before 1855. He was no adherent of the French form of parliamentary government with manhood suffrage. In reality he felt most attracted by a patriarchal absolutism, supported by a popular council, advisory, but without legislative or executive power. He thought this the form of government best suited to the Northern peoples. In the opening lines of one of his poems he says that the hand of the King and the voice of the people, both strong and both free, had prevailed in Denmark from of old.

In 1848, however, Grundtvig realized that the time had come to try whether the people were ripe for self-government. If this experiment were to succeed, the people must be educated in the High School not to misuse their power for selfish ends. He did not approve of the form given to the Constitution. At the final division he refrained from voting, even though he said that "the Constitution with its German verbosity, its French superficiality, and its un-Danish dryness" was to be preferred to a languishing absolutism.

Grundtvig was against the Danish coercive measures in the German-speaking part of South Jutland in the period 1848-1850. "In my opinion it would be most natural to let the people of Slesvig or South Jutland decide to what side they would prefer to belong." Just as he dimly saw here the idea of national self-determination, expressed in our day by Woodrow Wilson, he also anticipated the doctrine of Henry George. In 1855 he says as follows: "Every nation is the landed pro-

prietor of its own country and can never by any law be deprived of its right of ownership; only the benefit and use of the land can lawfully be distributed by the land laws, and be made the object of purchase and sale." A profound economic truth is expressed in his well known lines: "We shall have advanced far in wealth when few have too much and fewer too little." He does not say that no one should have too much, and no one too little.

### The Poet

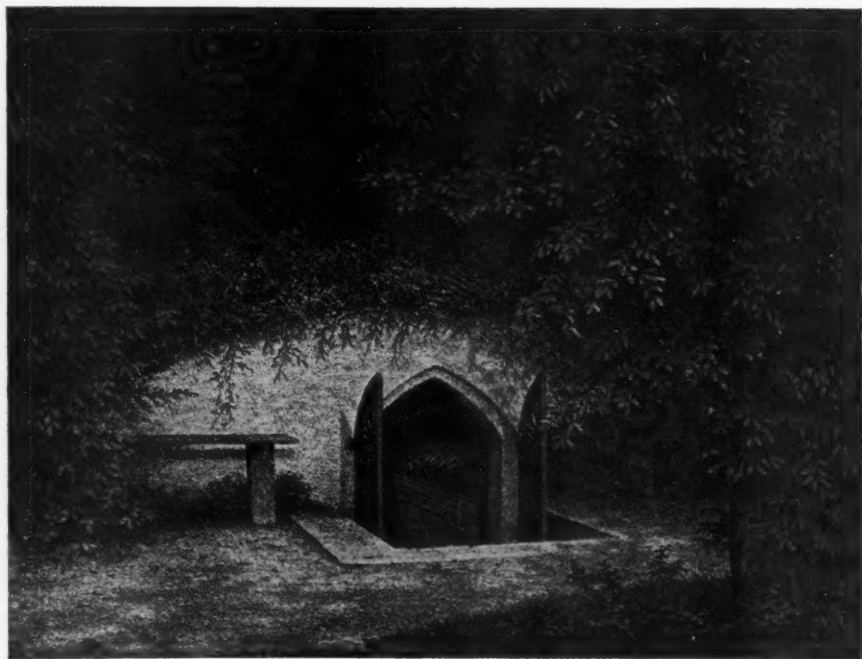
As a poet Grundtvig is a strange phenomenon in Danish literature. To him verse was never an aim in itself, but merely a means to rouse and edify. He would have been averse to the French theory of "art for art's sake." He often spoke disparagingly of "the form-cutter's guild," who set the form above the contents. In a way he was no artist and did not desire to be one. Nor had he any taste for music, painting, or dramatic art; especially the theater he actually disliked. Every genius has his limitations; only the talented are versatile. Clumsy and infelicitous turns of phrase are often met with in Grundtvig's verse, and the tone is rarely consistent throughout the poem. Yet no Danish poet, and hardly any hymn writer in the world, is so inspired as Grundtvig at his best. When we read his poems, and perhaps still more when we sing his songs, we feel how inspiration, enthusiasm, has lent him wings. Often, therefore, the opening lines of his poems move us deeply: "The Church it is an ancient house," "Lift up thy head all Christendom," "Welcome again God's Angels small," "In all his splendour shines the Sun"—there is a blare of trumpets in these tones. But even the more subdued notes, the simple everyday expressions, hold us spellbound, as in the hymn of the Church Bell or the lines, so wonderful in the Danish original:

Come in the last watch of the night,  
As one I love, before my sight,  
Take by my side Thy seat.  
Speak to me then as friend to friend  
Of where our pain and grief shall end,  
Of where we soon shall meet.

Some of his sentences have the ring and pithiness of a proverb. "O love, thou *calm* source of the stream of forces." Many another source goes to make up the stream of forces: hatred, greed, and ambition, but these are not calm. In his hymns and sacred songs Grundtvig has given the people of the North a priceless treasure. We should all feel poor indeed, if they were suddenly taken away from us.

Grundtvig died on September 12, 1872, a week before he would have





*Grundtvig's Grave on a Wooded Slope Near Køge, Sjælland*

entered on his ninetieth year. Only the day before he had preached in Vartov. He passed quietly away in his home at Tuborg, "as the sun sets in the fall." He was buried in the park of Gammel Køgegaard. At his funeral Björnstjerne Björnson compared him to the Vala who rose from the waters of legend in the dawn of the Northern race, and the Norwegian poet predicted that his visions would form "the horizon of the Northern nations for a thousand years." A thousand years is a long time, and it is impossible, even for the most far-sighted of men, to say what will be the "horizon" bounding the view of our nations by then. But Björnson was right in one thing: the mightiest spiritual contribution so far made to the life of the Northern peoples is due to Grundtvig, and even yet it has not been turned fully to account. Since the World War the idea of the Folk High School has penetrated beyond the borders of Denmark. As Sören Kierkegaard's ideas gain more and more ground in Europe, there will be increased need of Grundtvig's view of Christianity. In him we find the necessary corrective to Kierkegaard. These two great men, who were so far apart, and had such difficulty in understanding each other, are worthy representatives of Denmark in that spiritual "council of the peoples" which is to determine the future fortunes of the nations.



## Some Paragraphs on Grundtvig

**E**DMUND GOSSE in his book *Northern Studies* relates how he went to hear Grundtvig preach one Sunday morning, in the little chapel of Vartov "opposite the trees and still waters of Copenhagen." He tells how he and his friend found seats with difficulty, as the chapel was crowded.

"It seemed to be decided that the bishop was unable to come, and we began to sing hymns in the loud, quick, joyous manner invented by the poet, and very different from the slow singing in the State churches. Suddenly and when we had given up all hope, there entered from the vestry and walked rapidly to the altar a personage who seemed to me the oldest man I had ever seen. He prayed a few words that sounded as if they came from underground, and then he turned and exhorted the communicants in the same slow, dull voice. He stood beside me for a moment as he laid his hands on a girl's head, and I saw his face to perfection. For a man of ninety he could not be called infirm, but the attention was drawn less to his vitality, great as it was, than to his appearance of excessive age. He looked like a troll from some cave in Norway; he might have been centuries old.

"From the vast orb of his bald head, very long silky hair, perfectly white, fell over his shoulders, and mingled with a long and loose white beard. His eyes flamed under very beetling brows, and they were the only part of his face that seemed alive, even when he spoke. His features were still shapely, but colorless and dry, like parchment. I never saw so strange a head. When he rose into the pulpit, and began to preach, and in his dead voice warned us all to beware of false spirits, and to try every spirit, he looked very noble, but the nobility was scarcely Christian. In the body of the church he had reminded me of a troll; in the pulpit he looked more like some forgotten Druid, that had survived from Mona and could not die. It is rare indeed to hear any man preach a sermon at ninety, and perhaps unique for that man to be also a great poet. Had I missed seeing him then, I should never have seen him; for he took to his bed next day, and within a month the noble old man was dead."

PROFESSOR EDV. LEHMANN, in his book *Grundtvig*, quotes the description by Gosse, and taking as his point of departure the words, "He seemed to be centuries old," invites his readers to survey the span of history that had passed during Grundtvig's lifetime.

"And what did he not have to remember and look back upon! His

youth, his early manhood, belonged to a vanished age; to a land and a people that no longer existed. He himself had conquered it, recreated it; Denmark had become another land.

"Dimly he could remember the peasant with bent back, in knee-breeches and pointed cap, driving his oxen, still in the garb and with the mental attitude of the serf; bound to the soil, to the glebe, though the bonds of villenage were loosed and the land was his own; fettered to the stagnant life and fruitless toil of his fathers. Now he saw the grandson of this peasant walking behind his gleaming swing-plough drawn by shining horses; his harvest multiplied many times, his grain and butter hauled away on the highways of commerce; an eager, enterprising farmer's life, independent and profitable; a new age presaging economic greatness. He smiled at the thought, for he knew that this change had not been brought about merely by the passage of time, but that the power came from within, from something he had himself helped to create.

"He remembered a workshop in Aarhus, where masters, journeymen, and apprentices filled their working hours and their leisure time with foolish talk and ribald songs. . . .

"His experiences in these years of his youth actually gave him the idea for the Folk High School. And what a structure had not risen on that foundation, what a harvest had not grown from that seed, as the aged master looked back at it all! This was where it first sprouted that seed which had become a tree filling the North with its growth of a peculiar Northern culture. Now the strong winds of our time are carrying new seeds to the south and to the west.

"He remembered the churches, cold and empty, in the country as well as in the city, and the sermons empty and cold, whether rationalistic or orthodox. The congregational singing drawling along with old-fashioned melodies to the lean words of the hymn texts. Protestantism—alas, so protestant that it had become a protest against religion itself; the strong old Lutheran faith inherited from the fathers changed to a lukewarm respectability; even the deeper current of Pietism dried up or running out into the sand. The deadness of the Church which to Kierkegaard had been 'Christian twaddle' was to Grundtvig's heavy seriousness and bitterness a 'sleep of death.' He wanted, like the prophet Ezekiel, to see the dead bones rise up and become living men.

"And he came to see it. He created a congregation where there had hardly been people in church, a congregational singing where the voice of song had been silenced, a Christian life where both Christ and life had been forgotten."

# Artur Hazelius

*In Memory of His Hundredth Anniversary, November 30.*

BY ANN MARGRET HOLMGREN

THE ANNALS of Sweden do not contain many names that can warm Swedish hearts as that of Artur Hazelius. To those who knew his life and achievements, who were associated with him in his work, the name is like a trumpet call to action. He showed his many thousands of helpers how a man can give himself wholly in the service of an ideal. He pointed the way as no one had done before. He could kindle enthusiasm not only in his nearest co-workers, but in hosts of others. This unique gift, together with his winning and gentle manner and his great energy and power of sacrifice, made it possible for him in the short span of a few decades to collect the treasures of Swedish folk life now preserved in the great Northern Museum in Stockholm and in the open air museum Skansen.

No one but Artur Hazelius could have carried through this gigantic undertaking, for the simple reason that no one else had so many friends all over Sweden ready to help him to the full extent of their power.

What a host of lifelong friends did he not win among the peasants of Dalecarlia in the years when he went about among them collecting objects for his museum. He used to receive the most touching letters from them. They would address him as their "beloved friend" and confide



*Artur Hazelius*

their joys and sorrows to him. Sometimes the letters were signed by a whole list of names of people who were assembled together. Sometimes he would be invited to act as godfather. All looked forward to his visits and his letters.

For a number of years Artur Hazelius was a highly successful teacher in a normal school for women. His pupils were all devoted to him and later became helpers in his work. He used to say that his best support came from women.

While still a student at Uppsala he demonstrated his ability to make friends. When the 'Scandinavian Students' Union met at Uppsala in 1856 Artur had received permission to bring some of the visiting students home with him when they were passing through Stockholm. He brought a party of twenty. His mother, Fru Louise Hazelius, was used to welcoming his friends and had learned to be resourceful. She found sleeping quarters for the students in a large schoolroom. Then one evening, after an excursion to Drottningholm, he came home with seventy gay young people for a little informal dance, and Fru Hazelius provided supper for them all. Among them was one whom Hazelius called "Number one among the Norwegians," though he was yet quite unknown to fame, namely the future poet Björnsterne Björnson.

The first glimpse of the idea that was to become his life work came to me on the day when I was married to his friend Frithiof Holmgren, August 18, 1869. Artur's sister was telling of how he had been in Vingåker and had come back with a whole pile of knitted caps. "I should think one or two as a curiosity might have been enough," she said, laughing at his absurd idea.

Artur made no retort except to say quite simply that it might be well to take care of such things before it became too late. As in a flash I saw his idea. From that moment I was keenly interested in the work which was not even begun, and later I supported it as far as my time and means would allow.

In 1864 Artur had been married to Sofi Grafström, the daughter of a prominent clergyman of Umeå. Until her death in 1874 she was her husband's faithful assistant in his work and his companion on all his travels. She too was fascinated by the nature and people of Dalecarlia and won the warm regard of all who met her.

The two were poor, and every penny they could spare was absorbed by the great work they had undertaken. No sacrifice was too hard if it served their high goal—to collect and exhibit everything that could help to show the life of the Swedish people down through the ages, their habits and customs in all classes, and in a manner so that every



Swede could understand it. There was no time to lose. Already he had seen alarming instances of the destruction of old folk costumes, furnishings, and houses.

Hazelius collected not only material objects, but songs and stories as they lived on the lips of the people. Once when he entered a house seeking shelter from the rain, he met an eighty-year-old woman, Maja Stina Kron, who sang songs to him while he wrote them down. Later, when his open air museum at Skansen had become a reality, folk music was made an important part of his program.

A loan of 1,000 kronor from a relative enabled him to begin the realization of his dream. He often spoke of it with joy. In November 1872 the intensive work of collection began. Soon he had assembled more things than he had room for in his home. Then he rented some rooms and arranged a small exhibition. In the two following years the exhibits were moved to the so-called Southern and Northern Pavilions at Drottninggatan.

Hazelius wanted to show every object as it was in use. The furnishings must be placed in interiors exactly as they had been; the costumes must be seen as they had been worn. An artist was pressed into service to model the figures, and a woman of Österåker was called in to dress these dolls in the costumes Hazelius had collected. The backgrounds were faithfully reproduced. These exhibitions made a great hit with the public. The naturalistic arrangement was something quite new, as was also the plan for an open air museum which he developed later, and which has since been imitated all over Sweden and in many other countries.

In the latter half of the 'seventies Hazelius began his campaign for a museum building. In addition to assembling and caring for his collections, he had to bear the entire economic burden. After his father's death he used his inheritance for the work he was carrying on, but much larger sums were needed for purchases, rent, and salaries. Often he did not know where he was to get the money for running expenses or for interest on the loans he had made himself responsible for.

By almost superhuman efforts, by means of bazars, lotteries and the like, with very small subsidies from the Riksdag, he managed in fifteen years to get together enough money to lay the foundation for the splendid museum building. When it was ready, he and his assistants filled it with the objects they had collected.

Hazelius made the Northern Museum the property of the Swedish people with an independent board of directors. A more worthy gift than this means to "know thyself" could not have been bestowed.



The idea of an open air museum with room for buildings from different localities and periods had awakened in his mind when he was arranging his first exhibits. In 1885 he purchased the Mora house, which became the first building at Skansen when the territory known as Upper Skansen was acquired in 1891, for 25,000 kronor. Soon after he bought a large house from Blekinge. Both houses were furnished exactly as if they were still in use. Every smallest detail must be correct. Even the same flowers were planted outside the door.

Hazelius soon saw that the territory was too small, and the Bredablick parcel was bought for 100,000 kronor. He had to guarantee the purchase price himself until he was able to find 115 donors who pledged 100 kronor each for a period of ten years. The last purchase of land was made before his death.

In spite of violent opposition, lasting for many years, he lived to see his open air museum at Skansen universally admired. The great spring festivals, which were arranged so as to bring in money, were popular, and so were the Lucia and Christmas feasts, the New Year's night celebrations with speeches, the winter sports when sleds were drawn by reindeer or Eskimo dogs, and the dancing around the May pole to the tunes of a hurdy-gurdy or a peasant violin. All these things are now accepted as of great value in the life of the capital city.

But the creator of these values—what weariness and suffering did he not have to undergo! How many thousands of letters did he not write in the watches of the night, letters of admonition or of cheer, going out incessantly to every point of the compass. No one who did not know him intimately can form any conception of the self-forgetfulness and the devotion that Hazelius put into his life work. And yet he was attacked in the newspapers so that he himself once wrote, "It is as though I were a criminal."

He continued his labors, never wearying, until one spring night, in 1901, after he had made his usual rounds at Skansen, he sank into eternal sleep.

In his speech from the Orsa knoll the day before the funeral, Oscar Montelius said: "You have lovingly guarded the memories of the Swedish people. The Swedish people will lovingly guard your memory."

May we all remember, now on the hundredth anniversary of his birth, that such a memory lays a duty upon us.

# Protecting Birds and Flowers in Svalbard

BY DELPHIA PHILLIPS

**B**IRDS NEED to be protected in their breeding grounds as well as in the lands to which they migrate during a portion of the year. Many birds nest and rear their young in cold northern regions which might be thought to be so inaccessible that the birds

would be left unmolested. But man travels everywhere in these days, and wherever he goes, sad to say, it is necessary to protect the flora and fauna from destruction.

Norway has created an Arctic haven for birds in West Spitsbergen, the largest and most important island of the archipelago which Norway officially took possession of in 1925 and gave the general name Svalbard. A large virgin area has been set aside as a National Park where flowers as well as birds and animals will be protected. The region is in the northwestern part of West Spitsbergen and includes the small islands and reefs along the coast. It is bounded on the west and north by the ocean, on



*Auks in Bear Island*

the south by the Isfjord, and on the east by Widje Bay and Dickson Bay with the valleys between these two inlets. The area thus has its own well defined boundaries and contains within it all the important physical features of Spitsbergen, including volcanoes and hot springs, besides all species of the fauna and nearly all of the flora. It also has fine reindeer pastures. It is one of the most accessible places in this island, for the west coast is hardly ever closed by drift ice in the summer and is often free from ice during the entire year.

The conservation of this area was proposed as early as in 1914 at the Spitsbergen Conference which met in Christiania, now Oslo. Since



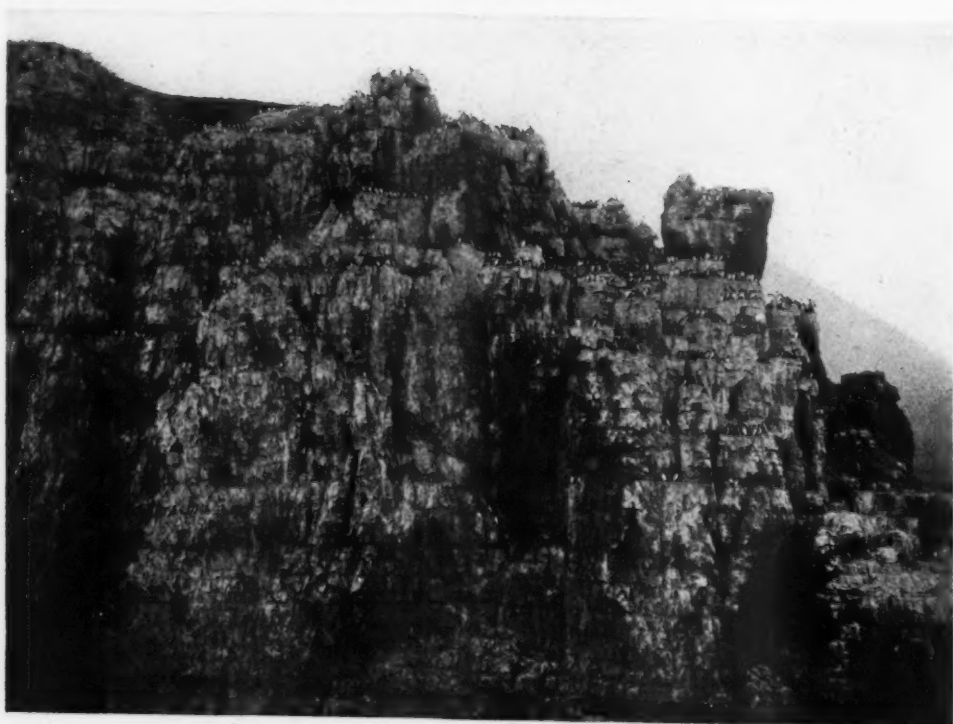
*Melandryum Apetalum v. Arcticum*—Spitsbergen Photograph by G. Holmsen



*Papaver Radicatum* (Yellow Poppy)—Spitsbergen Photograph by G. Holmsen



*Kittiwakes in Bear Island*



*A Bird Mountain in Bear Island—The Tiny Dots are Auks*

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then the world has discovered that Spitsbergen has natural resources worth exploiting, but inroads on the so-called "Nature Park" are not likely to be permitted. In fact the Norwegian government last year closed two additional areas on West Spitsbergen, the smaller lying south of the Isfjord between Cole's Bay and Advent Bay, the larger east of Dickson Bay and extending in the north to the west branch of Widje Bay. In these areas collection of plants and destruction of plant life is forbidden by law and the offender is liable to punishment.

Few people think of this northern island as having much of a floral display, but during the brief summer the number and beauty of the flowers are amazing. Fru Hanna Resvoll-Holmsen is the one entrusted with the study and classification of the flora, and she has found several new specimens there. Professor Adolf Hoel has the care of the fauna, and the importance of preserving the fauna is shown by the fact that several birds and animals peculiar to this region have been discovered. Both these naturalists have made repeated trips to the islands to study the forms of plant and animal life.

In addition to providing sanctuaries, the Norwegian government has passed strict laws to protect animals all over Svalbard. A law prohibiting the hunting of reindeer for ten years was passed in 1925. These animals had been almost exterminated in the central parts of West Spitsbergen, but now they have greatly increased. Herds of twenty to thirty animals may not infrequently be seen only a few kilometers from the mining town Longyear City, and occasionally a single reindeer may venture quite near the premises of the town.

Measures have also been taken to introduce new animals. In 1929 seventeen muskoxen were brought from East Greenland to West Spitsbergen. These animals seemed to thrive, and last summer the first calves were reported. Hares have been brought from northern Norway and also seemed to do well.

One of the greatest inroads on the bird life of the region has been the gathering of eggs, feathers, and down. This is now forbidden in the National Park. Plants may not be collected there, and even driftwood along the shores may not be removed.

Bear Island, lying far to the south of Spitsbergen, is now also a part of what is known as Svalbard. This small island has natural conditions quite different from those of Spitsbergen. Here are found what are called "bird mountains" rising perpendicularly to a great height. Professor Hoel estimates that about three million birds, mostly guillemots, inhabit these mountains.



Fifty-four species of birds have been found in Spitsbergen and thirty-seven in Bear Island, about half of which hatch their young there. Some of the birds which visit our localities on their migration go to these northern regions to raise their families. There have been 131 specimens of plant life found in West Spitsbergen, and a special effort is being made to preserve the rarer sorts.

It would thus appear that the island which in the United States is known chiefly in connection with some of the airplane expeditions that have started from it, is a treasure house of interesting fauna and flora. It is fortunate that laws have been passed to protect them in time instead of waiting until a large number of specimens had become extinct. Some have already become extinct, however.



*Fulmar Petrel*

*Photographs and Data by Courtesy of Professor Hoel*

## The Feast at Akershus

**O**N A PROMONTORY jutting out into the harbor of Oslo lies the old fortified castle Akershus. Many changes have passed over its grey walls since it was first built by Haakon V about the year 1300. It was a residence of the Norwegian kings and later of the vice-regents when the King lived in Copenhagen. In order to secure the protection of Akershus, Christian IV ordered the burned city of Oslo to be moved to its present site. Several times the old fort resisted attack, the last being that of Charles XII. After that it was allowed to fall into decay and finally sank down to being a prison, as it still is, though it also houses some of the administrative offices of the Norwegian army.

In recent years an interesting work of restoration has been carried on with a view to giving Akershus the appearance it had in the Middle Ages. The plan is not merely to keep it as a venerable memento of the past but to make it a part of the modern life of the city.

In order to rouse the public to the possibilities of Akershus and also to earn a little money for the work of restoration, a series of magnificent festivities were staged there last June. The plan was sponsored by Oslo Fylkeslag, a union of societies composed of young people who have moved in to the capital from various parts of the country. Thereby it



*The Setting of the Pageant*



*Queen Euphemia*



*King Haakon V and Queen Euphemia*



*The Court Fool and the Princess' Ladies*



*The Dignitaries of the Church*

was emphasized that the fate of Akershus is of interest to the whole country and not merely to Oslo dwellers.

The play, or rather pageant, was staged by an actor at the Norwegian Theater, Karl Holter, who had also written the text. He had taken two events from the history of the founder of Akershus, Haakon V. One was the dedication of the castle, the other was the betrothal of the King's daughter, Princess Ingebjörg, to the Swedish Duke Erik. Karl Holter himself played the part of Haakon and made a stately figure. The principal parts were taken by professional actors, but there were about three hundred volunteers who figured as courtiers, ladies, monks, nuns, prelates, and soldiers. Many of these were mounted.

Great pains had been taken to make the pageant historically correct. A professor of history read the manuscript; an authority on heraldry scrutinized every device, and the costumes were designed and made under expert guidance. An open-air theater was built on Prince Carl's bastion with seats for six thousand people. The grim old walls and the spreading trees made a beautiful background for the magnificent procession, as Queen Euphemia came riding in on the stage with her escort of courtiers. There was a splendor of gold and silk and a gleam of burnished weapons.

In addition to the pageant there were tournaments, games, singing, and music. One evening an ox was roasted whole and actors and spectators alike ate their slices of juicy beef from their fingers in genuine medieval style. There were also more modern amusements, a cabaret in the riding-school, which had been decorated with paintings of old Oslo, a dance hall, and a gypsy camp. Altogether it was a motley scene on the old ramparts in the fair summer night.

The festivities went on for several nights. The people of Oslo came in great numbers, and there were also flocks of foreign visitors, who in this way were given a glimpse of Norway's historic past. The period reproduced has been made familiar through the novels of Sigrid Undset. The founding of Akershus took place perhaps two decades before the midsummer festival, in the same spot, where Kristin Lavransdatter met her fate in Erlend Nikolausson.

If the feast at Akershus could be made an annual event it would prove a great attraction to visitors from abroad. They would then carry home with them not only the memory of Norway's mountains and fjords, but also of her cultural content.



# FAMOUS PAINTINGS IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AT OSLO

Notes by JOHAN H. LANGAARD

## VIII. *Midsummer Landscape*, by Halfdan Egedius

Every generation of artists can point to one tragic fate. In the group of the 'nineties it was Halfdan Egedius who, born in 1877, died when only twenty-two years of age. He had already shown the greatest promise that perhaps any young man has shown in Norwegian art.

Little more than a youngster still, Halfdan Egedius went along with Thorvald Erichsen to Telemark in the summer and there painted both landscapes and figures. In his feeling for Nature he exhibited an unusually rich receptivity open alike to her idyllic and to her violent, more dramatic moods. His sudden death was one of the greatest losses that Norwegian art has ever sustained. It was felt with special force in the group which, with its point of departure in Erik Werenskiöld, displayed an awakening national consciousness in its artistic purpose.

No more striking illustration either in mood or color of Norwegian midsummer can be imagined than the boy in the red jacket reaching up into the tree for sweet cherries as he rides by on his dun horse.



*Midsummer Landscape, by Halfdan Egedius*

# Evina

By JONAS LIE

*Translated from the Norwegian by ANDERS ORBECK*

DEEP in the Finn Forest on the shore of Lake Vermund lived a solitary Finn, a chimney sweep, who during winter trudged down to the village and earned a few shillings cleaning chimneys.

He had a daughter named Evina.

Their cottage lay many miles from people; the only other habitation was a little backwoods hut on the other side of the lake.

An old couple lived there and their son Vermund. They had themselves cleared the land and burned underbrush and planted to rye, and put up the little cabin and the fence around it, from which rose curls of smoke. With plenty of delicious trout and other game fish in the lake, and wild fowl in the forest, there was always food to be had. But people they never saw, other than now and then a woodsman or sportsman or lone traveler, except those few times in the year when they went to church or marketed fish and game down in the village.

Whenever she was out fishing in the skiff, Evina, ever since a child, always amused herself by singing. From innumerable quarters the echo came back, clear and beautiful, and when she lingered on through the twilight the sound of her voice carried far, far away over tiers of sun-gilt tree tops.

It was marvelous the various effects she got. She could manage the clear bell-like tones of the finest flute, or take up the shrill cry of a bird as it darted twittering straight up in the air and as abruptly settled, or rumble deeper than the black grouse aloft in the pine. There was not

a bird in the forest she could not outdo and put to shame.

When she sent her notes reverberating through the hills, Vermund too dropped his axe and his work. For then he knew that she wanted him to go fishing with her or help her pick berries on the moor. It was his nature to believe that such singing was natural with all girls. But when they reached the age of maturity, Vermund came to think the days empty and tedious when he did not see her or talk with her. He missed her and longed for her, and idled away his time listening intently, hoping to hear any moment some echo of her song.

And more and more he came to think how grand it would be always to have her with him in the cabin instead of having to wait for her to call and halloo over to him. The lake was wide, too, and treacherous when it stormed. When the ice formed in the fall and broke up in spring there were long weeks when it was impossible to get across.

He began to go down to the village and sell fish and game, and always he returned with rolls and honey cakes and sweetmeats and mead. And always there was some little sweet bit in the bag for her. If he did not wait for her, it was she who watched and waited for him.

But down in the village everybody got married, Vermund had noticed, and they might just as well do it too. One had only to stop at the village store with some fish and game and get some money and then drop in at the parson's to arrange for the bans.

So they arranged. And early and late she sang and called over to him in the

last days of summer. The foliage about the lake began to turn yellow and red, and mirrored itself sharply in the water, and they had only three Sundays more till the appointed time.

Day in and day out she sang. The autumn days were clear and still. Her song floated away in tones full and round and came back to her from afar. Never had it been so lovely and rich, and never had she felt so bewilderingly happy.

There were only three more weeks left. Then she would move over to the other side—over, over, over the lake, her song seemed to say, as it shattered the stillness and echoed back and forth among the hills and floated in ample tones far out over the waters.

Then one day, as she was at her very best, some distinguished men and aristocratic sportsmen, with dogs in leash and horns over their shoulders, called to her from a woody clump just behind her. They had stopped there to rest, they explained, and had been listening to her, and such a voice they had never heard anywhere or in any country.

That they should so think did not strike her as particularly strange, for she had always taken it for granted that her singing was the best in the entire range of the forest.

She must tell them where she lived and lead the way home to her father.

He was chimney sweep in the village, she explained, and if it was chimneys they had in mind, the charge was eight shillings a sweeping and board.

Among themselves they spoke a language she could not understand. They looked at her and nodded to one another and talked away in loud voices.

When they reached the hut they found the father cutting twigs and fashioning brushes for his brooms. He had seen aristocratic folk before, and understood instantly it was not about chimney sweeping they had come. He asked his daughter

to be quiet that he might hear what they had to say.

But he was startled out of himself when the man with the shining brass horn slipped a hundred-dollar bill down on his broom and said his daughter must accompany them at once to the city to sing. There would be riches in store for her, and costly jewels, and plenty of money, enough to buy them a fine farm, before the year was up.

Never had Evina dreamed she would ever get to the city. Nor did she precisely know where it lay beyond the village. But she was eager to go there and sing. Only one thing she pleaded tearfully: that she might be married to Vermund first.

But that they would have none of. When she got rich she could come home and marry as much as ever she had a mind to. It was best to get started at once—this very evening.

Her father rowed them across the lake. As they rowed the mile or more down the lake to the outlet, she sang and called to Vermund by way of farewell so tearfully and so beautifully that the distinguished gentlemen seemed utterly lost and only stared and nodded to one another. The man she thought the richest, the one with the horn, who had given the hundred-dollar bill, raised a handkerchief to his eye every now and then—indeed he was actually weeping, although he did not even know Vermund.

They had to walk for an hour after that, her father showing the way, before they got down to the highway.

There they came upon two carriages, all enclosed like tiny houses with windows and everything, and perched up in front sat two resplendent coachmen with long whips.

Away they drove to the city.

Evina had never lain in a bed so soft and fine as that night—nor dreamed there even existed such huge buildings as this or such grand things as everything about her here. Only she came to feel so shut in

that she simply had to get out in the open. In the middle of the night she rushed for the door and wanted to go home.

It was locked and bolted. So she lay there sobbing, all night long, till morning came, and she was served coffee in bed with sugar and a whole stack of hot rolls.

Later kind people came in and taught her how she must do this and that when she sang in public. Elegant dresses and things they brought her, and instructed her, in a large hall with ceiling lights, evening after evening, how to enter and bow and sing, and how to make her bow and leave the stage when the man with the horn applauded, and reenter again and make her bow as often as he applauded and called her.

The evening came when she was to sing. There was music by ever so many musicians. When she stepped forward, she saw people packed row upon row in the house, and instantly she thought of Vermund and the endless tree tops back home.

She began in silvery, bell-like tones. She trilled and twittered away and away, up in the air like the little birds at home, more and more jubilant, her tones growing richer and fuller and longer, as though seeking to span Lake Vermund.

When she ceased, the whole forest seemed hushed in stillness, she thought. No one applauded, no one raved, as the man with the horn had said.

She made her bow and retired as she had been taught.

That instant the storm broke loose. "Evina, Evina!" they called, and thundered and roared like trolls. Louder and longer they shouted and called and clapped their hands every time she sang.

At last all she could do was to pick up some of the finest bouquets and make her bow and retire off stage.

Early next morning a fellow in black appeared. He bore greetings from the man with the horn, and placed before her

on the table a neat cash box with a key in it. It was filled to the top with bills and glittering coins.

When he told her it was all hers, every bit, she wanted to take the box and straightway go home to Vermund.

He winked an eye and chuckled. This was only a very, very small beginning. If she cared to learn to sing even better and then travel with him to other countries, she would have so many such rolls to take home to Vermund that she could buy the biggest farm she could think of.

She thought it over. It was really fun to sing like this and make all the people under the chandelier lights rave and go wild and call her back, and perhaps it would be wiser to wait till the pile of bills she would have to take home would be very, very much larger.

A maestro came and taught her how to read music. Then another who taught her how to stand and walk properly and acquire the necessary poise. There followed modistes and dressmakers, who tried on one lovely dress after another, and a great many whom she had to buy jewels from and pearls and precious stones.

She sang and studied and traveled about with the man, whose name was Impresario, from city to city and from country to country. She learned to speak other languages and to drink champagne and to crave all those manifold delicacies which at first she had so little liking for.

The time came when they wanted her to sing at the opera—the most glorious of all places.

She sang there. And far and wide spread her fame, and people everywhere talked about her.

Indeed, the farther she traveled, the wilder they raved, and the louder they applauded, and cried "Bravo, bravo, Signora Elvira!" More imposing grew the bouquets in the evening and the rolls of bills the next morning, and kings and emperors showered upon her bracelets and pearls and diamonds. When her admirers



had cried themselves hoarse shouting *la Diva*, they seized hold of her carriage and brought her home. And to the hotel, where she lived, they sent gratuities and gifts till she scarce remembered to inquire for them.

In this wise she sang and traveled about the world. Money came and money went. How much she owned she did not know. She d'd send home to her father a remittance—she was no great hand at writing—but received word from the village parson that her father was dead.

During the summer she went to her villa in the Pyrenees. The servants and the retinue and the journey cost great sums, but she always referred everything to her bank.

She had been at it so long and so many years that she scarce remembered she had once been a poor girl and trudged about Lake Vermund.

Then one evening she sang. The house was packed from floor to ceiling. In the royal box sat the emperor and the empress and the princes and the most illustrious of the court.

In the most glorious passage in the song she raised her eyes, and caught sight of a face leaning forward and staring at her. Her blood at once rushed to her heart. She was reminded of Vermund.

It was just something that struck her fancy, she thought. But all through the recital she had to turn in his direction and look and look. That he should be sitting there seemed to her as impossible as it would be to move Lake Vermund.

And yet the more she looked the more she thought it was he, and that she was able to distinguish so clearly, so very clearly, both the tilt of his head and the way of his hair, as he leaned forward listening, and the furrowed corners of his mouth, which he drew in whenever anything moved him.

She put her whole soul into her song, and sang with more feeling and more power than any time since that last day

at home on Lake Vermund. But when he drew forth a blue-checked handkerchief and dried first one eye and then the other and then folded it up again, she well-nigh stepped out of her rôle altogether.

She was certain now that it was Vermund. And instantly her heart began to beat madly and she was happy. She rushed forward to the footlights and sang and halloood in her native language as in the days of old, "Vermund, Vermund, come over—over—over—"

The emperor rose in his box and applauded, and the house thundered and shook with bravos. They thought this strangely beautiful bit had been written into the score especially for the great Diva. After the final aria they showered the stage with flowers and costly gifts. Seven times she had to come out and take her bow.

But when they shouted and thundered and called for her the eighth time, and many rushed out to unhitch the horses and draw her carriage home, she was gone. Evina had had her carriage wait outside and had found Vermund.

Then he told her how he had waited for her and waited and waited until he could stand it no longer. In the village they read the newspapers and talked about the Chimney Sweep's Evina and how she had come up in the world and now stood unrivaled in song. But when he questioned the storekeeper further about her, and ventured the opinion that she would some day come home again, he only chuckled and winked.

Then Vermund had started out, and earned his way from place to place, and worked his passage across, till he came here and heard she was to sing in the evening.

Questions and inquiries flowed from her in torrents. It was her first chance in years to unburden herself in her own native language about things dear to her—things she had been unable to speak of

to anyone these long years and scarce had time to think about.

Their talk ran helter-skelter from one thing to the next, about home, about the buildings and the breaking of new ground and the underbrush and the grandson of Trofast, the dog they had in her day, about Lake Vermund and the boat and the trout and the roosting grounds of the grouse and the new pail she had just got and had left behind, about the goats and the horse he had in mind buying when he got home, and a hundred other things which they had no time to dispose of before the carriage stopped at the hotel, and she had him come to her room in order to talk further.

But every few minutes admirers came rushing up the stairs, who wished to pay their respects to *la Diva* or Signora Elvira, and complimented her and thanked her and stood fumbling with their hats in their hands. Never before had she sung so gloriously, they said. From the emperor came a sparkling bracelet which she had to acknowledge and stand a long while and talk about. So peace there was none, and he had to promise to return the next morning as soon as she was through with rehearsal.

That night she was unable to sleep. This breath from her old home had come so suddenly and moved her so strangely. She lay awake and thought of Vermund and waited eagerly for dawn. She wanted to show him her whole establishment, and the manner in which she was living, and all those odd and curious things which he must marvel at.

She imagined she was back in her father's cottage again and had to be up with the sun and take the boat out and go fishing. She remembered every knot in the fish net, and she rowed and rowed but could never get clear because of all the seaweed off shore, which always got caught and tore the bait off.

When he came the next day they went at it again and talked and laughed and

chattered as fast as their tongues could fly. There seemed to be no end to all they had to talk about, things old and new at home, where the two little cabins sent up spirals of smoke on either side of the lake.

She forgot everything and talked herself into thinking she was still there. But when she made ready to call "Vermund, Vermund, come over," and had already cupped her hand to her mouth, she suddenly checked herself. She realized there could be no thought now of such a thing as marriage.

She decided to take him riding in her carriage and show him the zoo and the wild animals, the lions and tigers and serpents, and anything else that might be amusing. Away they rolled with servants perched up in front, and everywhere they went people humbly doffed their hats to them.

All day long they drove about and did this and saw that. But when they stood watching the lion, it was about wolves they talked and whether he had seen any signs of them lately back home, and in front of the funny ostriches and pelicans it was all about the supply of fish at this ness and that in Lake Vermund. Everything else they forgot except home.

When finally they came back to the hotel again, her table in the little alcove was set for dinner, resplendent with polished silver and crystal goblets and a centerpiece of flowers, all dazzling to the eye. The waiters came with course after course. But as they ate they talked only of the honey-cakes and the twists and the sweets they had shared on the thwart in the boat till they both all but lost their appetite.

She made up her mind to go home next summer to Lake Vermund and not to her villa in the Pyrenees. She thrilled at the thought of it. She would send along money with him to repair the neglected cottage of her father the chimney sweep. She intended to live there, she said, and

have everything exactly as it was in the old days.

At length he said goodbye and started home.

And however much the village store-keeper winked and shrugged his shoulders every time Vermund insisted she had promised to come home for the summer, in due time she really did come.

For two or three days she did nothing but wander about, singing and calling from forest and lake, in all the places that had responded so clearly back in the days when she was a girl there. With Vermund she hauled out the boat and fished in the old spots again all the way down to the outlet.

It seemed to her she had never, since she was there last, tasted anything quite so delicious as the trout she caught with her own hands or the berries she gathered on the moor.

The air was fresh and clean and pleasantly warm.

But one morning she was awakened by rain. It was dreary and gray, and a heavy mist hung over the tree tops. The next day was no better: it rained and rained and swept in great gusts across the lake. It was lonesome and tedious and dreary to sit all day long inside and listen to the wind and the pelting of the rain against the window.

Then suddenly she left. From the station at the village store she drove madly in an elegant barouche down through the village all the way to the city where the Impresario awaited her.

Once more she went traveling about the world, tour upon tour, year after year. Money came and money went. She gave up going to her villa in the Pyrenees for the summer, and went instead to health resorts to nurse her throat. For more and more the reviews suggested that her highest tones were not quite so full and clear, and more and more the Impresario cautioned her to take good care of her voice.

There were always more and more people demanding money of her, and farther and farther she traveled to earn the fees that were needed. And ever longer grew the treatments for her throat.

Such high voices rarely lasted many years, the doctors said. From the very first hers should have been carefully watched and conserved. Instead it had been wastefully squandered.

A few years still went by. It was always something to see and hear a world famous singer, and people came. But the applause and the curtain calls and the flowers grew less frequent and the honorariums steadily smaller.

The time came when the newspapers, angry and sick of it all, threw all pretense aside, and indignantly called her a worn-out organ with broken stops.

By that time her diamonds and jewels and treasures had long since been pawned and the villa in the Pyrenees transferred to creditors. As for herself, she was like a worn-out extra amid all the people she had dazzled once as the great star.

Lake Vermund came back to her then, and glittered in her memory clear and blue. She could still sing there, and halloo out over the sun-gilt tree tops. No newspapers thundered there, no Impresario nagged, and the chimney sweep's cottage was not worth the creditors' coming.

One day in midsummer Vermund saw smoke rising across the lake. It must be some newcomer, he thought. But he had tended and looked after the hut during so many years for her who might some day return, that he felt he had a sort of right to it and had better go over and investigate.

There sat Evina before the fire making her morning coffee. She had come up by boat from the outlet the night before.

She returned with about as little as she had when she left. But to Vermund it was enough, for the less she had the more likely she was to stay. And food he would provide, he insisted.

He crossed over every day in the boat, filled the cracks in the wall with moss, split wood and put things in order, and brought fish and game. Again they shared sugar and coffee whenever he returned from the village with supplies, and together they rowed out and set the nets for fish, till the ice began to form in the late fall and it became difficult to cross.

One day he saw her stand waving to him. He realized that she was calling; but her voice did not carry across. He just managed to get the boat across through the ice, and learned there was not a bit of food left in the cottage.

It seemed to him better that she return home with him at once than to continue here without any means and have to wave and call over to him. Snow enveloped the forest, and the winter passed.

Down in the village people thought it a strange turn that she who had been once so world-famous had again become the Chimney Sweep's Evina and had married Vermund up there on the lake.

But up in the log cabin they cooked and kept house and gathered in wood and kindling and struggled along. In the evening Evina sat at the fire stirring the pot and hummed and sang snatches of arias and operas, as they happened to come to her, like an old bird that tries to sing but only now and then brings forth a croak.

Gradually bit by bit the fading memories of brilliant halls and people and bravos and curtain calls and honors became one with the sun-gilt tree tops around Lake Vermund.

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## Alfred Bernhard Nobel

BY CLARENCE EDWIN FLYNN

**D**EAD all these years, how potently he lives,  
 Reaching back from the grave a ready hand,  
 That flings a challenge to the time, and gives  
 Its aid to better things in every land!  
 No granite shaft, however high it rise,  
 No words of praise on a bronze tablet spent,  
 Could tell his story to the centuries  
 Fitly. He has a living monument.

His voice, though silenced, calls around the earth,  
 Challenging leadership to meet the test,  
 Science and art to vindicate their worth,  
 Knowledge and skill to dedicate their best.  
 How rich is he who thus transmutes his gold  
 To values that the years cannot make old!



# THE QUARTER'S HISTORY



**U.S.A.**

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT's invitation to the Soviet Government to send a representative to Washington to discuss existing questions in order to effect a satisfactory settlement between the two governments, as expected, was a forerunner to the recognition of Russia by the United States. The text of the correspondence between Mr. Roosevelt and Mikhail Kalinin, President of the Central Executive Committee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, indicated that both sides were anxious to renew diplomatic relations. The selection of Maxim M. Litvinov, Commissar of Foreign Affairs, to represent Russia in the discussions with the President, was fortunate because of Litvinov's familiarity with world affairs in general. Among the Senators in favor of recognition, as shown by a private poll taken last year, are the following: Borah (Idaho), Johnson (California), La Follette (Wisconsin), Cutting (New Mexico), all Republicans; Robinson (Arkansas), Wagner (New York), Black (Alabama), all Democrats, and Shipstead (Minnesota), Farmer-Labor. It is believed that the Soviet Government will buy many million dollars' worth of American farm products providing satisfactory credit arrangements can be made.

THE N.R.A. CAMPAIGN has been advancing at a satisfactory pace during the past months and, in a speech which was broadcast throughout the nation on the evening of October 22, President Roosevelt gave an account of his stewardship. "In the early spring of this year," he said, "there were actually and proportionately more people out of work in this country than in any other nation in the

world. Fair estimates showed twelve or thirteen millions unemployed last March. Of these, in the short space of a few months, I am convinced that at least four millions have been given employment."

Especially important in the President's address was his reference to the currency situation. He said that he was authorizing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to purchase newly mined gold at rates to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury and the President from time to time. In addition to purchasing newly mined gold, the R.F.C. at its discretion will also buy or sell gold in the world market. To critics of his monetary policies, the President said that "government credit will be maintained and a sound currency will accompany a rise in the American price level." It was significant that President Roosevelt made his address at a time when criticism of both the National Recovery and Agricultural Adjustment Administrations was being manifested. In the Middle West, Milo Reno, president of the National Farmers' Holiday Association, was attempting to rally the farm belt to a farmers' strike in an effort to withhold produce from the markets until prices at least met the cost of production. From the same section came a demand for currency inflation, with which Senator Norris, Republican insurgent from Nebraska, has been in sympathy.

THE SENATE Banking and Currency Committee's investigation revealed that Albert H. Wiggin, former head of the Chase National Bank of New York, has since 1929 received enormous sums in salary and bonuses from the bank and the Chase Securities Corporation. Ferdinand Pecora, investigation counsel, further brought out from the examination of Mr. Wiggin on the witness stand that the latter was voted a salary of \$100,000 a year



for the remainder of his life when he retired as head of the bank in January of this year. As a result of this and similar investigations, it is understood that President Roosevelt conferred with Attorney-General Homer S. Cummings on possible far-reaching legislation to control excessive salaries paid executives of corporations. The huge salaries paid to the heads of the moving-picture industry, as well as directors and actors and actresses, will be included in the investigation which the President expects to make.

THE ELECTION held in New York on November 7 resulted in a sweeping victory for the Fusion movement whose candidate, Major Fiorello H. La Guardia, was elected mayor by a plurality of over 250,000 votes. Joseph V. McKee, candidate of the Recovery Party, was second, with Mayor J. P. O'Brien a poor third.

The Fusion victory was the direct result of the legislative investigation conducted by Samuel Seabury, which showed up the astounding corruption in the city government and in the lower courts. The resignation of Mayor Walker, however, left the city still controlled by Tammany Hall, with bankruptcy imminent and the prospect of new and higher taxes to come. The whole country followed the three-cornered mayoralty contest with close attention, as the entrance of McKee, posing as the candidate of the national Administration, made it impossible to forecast the outcome. The Fusion victory was a stinging rebuke on the part of the electorate to the boss controlled system of both parties, but especially to Tammany Hall, and will hearten the advocates of municipal reform in many other cities.

THE END of national prohibition became a certainty on November 7 when three States, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Utah, voted to repeal the Eighteenth Amendment, bringing the total to thirty-six or the two-thirds needed to ratify the repeal amendment. A month must elapse

before the final ratification can take place and the legal sale of liquor begin. Only two States, North Carolina and South Carolina, of the thirty-eight which have held elections so far, have failed to vote for repeal. The passing of prohibition focuses attention on the control methods to be used to prevent the return of the saloon and the conditions of pre-prohibition days.

In view of the near approach of the repeal of prohibition especial interest is attached to a report by the Rockefeller-sponsored liquor survey which recommends the establishment of a State liquor monopoly which would take over the retail sale through its own stores of the heavier alcoholic beverages for off-the-premises consumption. The plan was recommended by Raymond B. Fosdick, a trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation, and Albert L. Scott, an engineer, who made the survey for John D. Rockefeller, Jr. At the convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, held in Jamestown, New York, Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, president of the New York State branch of the Union, attacked the report and disagreed particularly with the part which said that drunkenness had not increased since beer was legalized, and that patronage of bootleggers had fallen off.

THE RESIGNATION of President Harry A. Garfield of Williams College will take effect in June next year, when the college will celebrate the one hundred and fortieth anniversary of its founding. Dr. Garfield was inducted into the office of president twenty-five years ago, and, when asked why he resigned, said that he did so after a prolonged and careful consideration. He had just passed his seventieth year. The son of James A. Garfield, twentieth President of the United States, Dr. Garfield has been especially active in international affairs, and the Williamstown Summer Institute has been the meeting place for statesmen of many nations.



## DENMARK

AT THE OPENING of the Rigsdag, on September 19, the three major parties presented their different interpretations of the needs of the country during the existing economic crisis. For the Conservatives, Christmas Möller, in discussing the number of new laws proposed, chided the Social-Democratic régime for not having earlier instituted reform measures looking to a more concrete control of grain, butter, and bacon. This, he argued, should have been done before the close of the harvest season. The party of the Left, likewise, found itself at odds with the Government over agrarian policy. Minister of Agriculture Bording laid before the Rigsdag a proposition, based upon the representations of the Farm Commission. Another of the important issues was that of unemployment, which Social Minister Steincke said would be met to the best ability of the Government by public works. Minister of Commerce Hauge requested of the Rigsdag a loan of 3,000,000 kroner, in addition to the sum already granted, to enable the smaller industrialists to meet the exigencies of the hour.

THE MARRIAGE of Prince Knud and Princess Caroline Mathilde at Fredensborg Palace, on September 9, was made the occasion of the most brilliant event the historic structure had witnessed since the days when the court of King Christian IX was the gathering place of European royalty. The ceremony took place in the palace chapel where Dean Hornbeck officiated in the presence of a distinguished company, including a number of visitors from abroad. Dean Hornbeck was assisted by Pastors Reumert and Eilschou-Holm. A special wedding march had been composed by Organist Gilberg, and the procession to the altar was an imposing spectacle led by King Christian, arm in arm

with the bridegroom. Prince Harald, father of the bride, escorted Princess Caroline Mathilde to the altar. The royal couple received many costly gifts, including table linen ornamented with Tønder lace on which fourteen of the best known lace-makers in South Jutland had been at work for several months. The present was from 2,500 Danish men and women. The gift of King Christian and the Queen was two immense candelabras of silver in the Rosenborg style.

THE SOUTH JUTLAND situation continues to cause considerable anxiety in view of the agitation in Germany for a change of the frontier. That Denmark will oppose any change whatever was made emphatic by Premier Stauning who, at a meeting in Haderslev, declared that the Danish Government would stand adamant against any efforts of the Nazi régime to instil its doctrines into the population of South Jutland. "We have granted freedom within all spiritual and cultural fields to the population of the territory that was restored to Denmark," the Prime Minister declared in an interview later, at which Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, the United States Minister, was present. "But there must be a limit to the abuse of that freedom. The Danish Government is aware that military training is taking place along the frontier. It is also true that statements have been made differing from those of the Reich Government. For this reason our border is patrolled by police and military forces. We must protect our frontier and our people by all the means at our disposal." Premier Stauning also said that he felt that the German schools in South Jutland had been made centers of propaganda detrimental to Danish interests.

The withdrawal of Germany from the League of Nations and the Disarmament Conference gave rise to further anxiety both in Danish Government circles and among the population in general. It is a well known fact that Denmark has taken

the lead among European nations for the limitation of armaments. At Geneva, on various occasions, Foreign Minister Munch has been foremost in advocating arms reductions as one of the best means for a better relationship among the greater and lesser countries.

THE ANNIVERSARY of the birth of Bishop Grundtvig 150 years ago was observed throughout the country with ceremonies which showed in what honored memory the great church reformer is held. Coincidentally with the event, flag-raising took place on the Grundtvig Church, the unique architecture of which has also interested builders of ecclesiastical structures in foreign lands. The main service of the day was held in the Frederik Church, where Pastor Johannes Monrad spoke of the great hold Bishop Grundtvig had on the generation that saw him free the State religion from some of its trammels. His intense interest in the education of the young was one of Grundtvig's chief characteristics, the speaker declared. His historical and biblical songs were part of the treasured heritage that he had left behind him. Pastor Monrad showed how at first Grundtvig's idea had been met with ridicule and distrust, but how gradually the country had awakened to an appreciation of his important reforms in church conditions. Speaking of the Grundtvig Church in its relation to the country, and of its unique construction, Professor Vilhelm Andersen, in an address at the flag-raising exercises, said that architecturally it was the Danish village church in its purest form. Among other noteworthy ceremonies in honor of the event, the services in the Marble Church, the subsequent gathering in the Grundtvig House, and the ceremonies in the schools indicated that the memory of N. F. S. Grundtvig was as much revered as ever among the people of Denmark. Norway joined Denmark in commemorating the birthday with impressive services in the Trondheim Cathedral.

DENMARK'S second university was opened at Aarhus on September 12, with ceremonies which included the dedication address by King Christian. The capital of Jutland has for years labored to obtain this institution of higher learning, which will afford the young people of the peninsula the opportunity of getting a university training without having to go to Copenhagen. The principal speaker at the dedication exercises was Minister of Instruction Borgbjerg, who reminded his hearers that five hundred years lie between the time when King Christian I dedicated Denmark's first university and the present event, with a ruler of the same name doing the honors at Aarhus. Felicitations were received from university authorities in the other Scandinavian capitals. The oldest university in Scandinavia is that at Uppsala, Sweden.

COPENHAGEN journalism lost one of its outstanding figures by the death of Henrik Cavling, who, as the editor of *Politiken*, is credited with having introduced American methods of reporting in Denmark. Cavling some years ago retired from active participation in *Politiken* to be succeeded by his two sons and the late Ove Rode. On his seventy-fifth anniversary, which occurred shortly before his death, the Scandinavian newspaper world joined in paying tribute to him, even those opposed to what *Politiken* stands for conceding that he had been a power in the Fourth Estate. Much of the reputation that attached to the newspaper was due to the fact that it was the mouthpiece of Georg Brandes and his brother Edvard. Cavling in his day was a great traveler, and his books, including one about the Danish West Indies, give a most picturesque account of personal observations.

DURING no summer has Copenhagen played host to more distinguished foreign visitors than this year. After the arrival of Colonel and Mrs. Charles A. Lind-

bergh, fresh from their Greenland-Atlantic air trip, Ralph Pulitzer, son of the late Joseph Pulitzer, and formerly owner of the New York *World*, spent some days in the capital after arriving on the Swedish American liner *Kungsholm*. Another noted visitor was Hans V. Kaltenborn, whose radio talks on the news of the day are a conspicuous feature of American broadcasting.

The long-distance wireless transmission service inaugurated between Denmark and New York is looked upon as greatly facilitating commercial intercourse. Denmark is the last of the Scandinavian countries to get this direct service. It is between the Danish station at Skamlebak and the Mackay Radio & Telegraph Company's station in New York. Speaking of the innovation, Chief Engineer Kay Christiansen said that the cable service and the radio would supplement each other, the former acting more and more as a reserve when unfavorable conditions interfere with wireless operations.



AN IMPROVEMENT in the economic situation, especially in regard to exports was the chief development in Sweden this fall. Compared to the same months in 1932, the trade balance was bettered by some 158,000,000 kronor; exports increased by approximately 100,000,000 kronor, while the imports went down by 58,000,000. Not since 1929 have such figures been recorded, and if the remaining months of 1933 show the same gains, the visible trade balance for the year may be favorable.

The greatest advances in exports were scored by wood pulp and paper, and also to a smaller degree by lumber. The pulp mills were operated on full time, and the year's output had been sold far in advance.

The lumber camps of Norrland will not be idle this winter. In the iron industry there was also considerable increase in employment, but less in the machine shops. In some of the seasonal industries there was a slight rise in unemployment at the end of the summer, but the general unemployment curve which had been rising since the beginning of 1930 took a sharp drop in the spring of 1933 and continued its downward course throughout the summer and fall.

THE HARVEST was normal, thanks to favorable weather. Grains, potatoes, and sugar beets yielded more than the average, but the hay crop was below par. The fruit and berry crops were uncommonly abundant.

LABOR contracts in the pulp industries, affecting 52,000 men, expired November 1, and were renewed automatically, in contrast to the prolonged conflicts of a year ago. The Government's attempt to mediate the year-old strike in the building trades, on the other hand, failed, perhaps because there would have been little activity in that industry anyway. While the political deal of last June between the farmers and the Social-Democrats as to unemployment relief and import duties on foodstuffs continued to irritate the Conservative editors, it gained approval from the rest of the country. The Social-Democratic Cabinet, headed by Per Albin Hansson, therefore added to its reputation for moderation and sense. Though a minority government, it was regarded as secure in power for some time to come.

IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS the activities of the Nazis in Germany occupied most of the attention, and at the end of October it seemed to lead to a new manifestation of Scandinavian solidarity. After the Danish Prime Minister Stauning had declared that his country would defend its new border in South Jutland, the Swedish Premier visited him in Copenhagen on



October 26, and the event aroused much attention throughout Denmark. How far these two Socialist statesmen agreed as to future action, should the German agitation continue, was naturally not revealed, but before their meeting the nationalistic and Conservative *Svenska Dagbladet*, of Stockholm, which usually watches foreign affairs with a pro-German slant, declared: "Sweden shares completely—and surely without deviating from any other Northern opinion—the Danish conception of the 1920 frontier between Denmark and Germany." In general the Nazi activities, both as regards foreign affairs and persecution of the Jews, continued to receive much critical comment in the Swedish press. Two Labor papers went so far that their publishers were put in jail for criminal libel against Chancellor Göring of Prussia.

THE ECONOMIC experiments of President Roosevelt in the United States were followed in Sweden with the closest interest and attention, not because anything similar was regarded as suitable for Sweden, where many of the proposed N.R.A. reforms have in fact long been established, but because of the effect they would have on world trade. The general opinion was that the American attempt to conjure the depression with codes was based on false premises and would therefore fail. "To make Socialism work, you must first have Socialists," some of the Swedish observers remarked, while others said that a country cannot lift itself by its own bootstraps any more than an individual, and a third group thought that the progress in the United States was despite rather than because of the N.R.A. and similar devices. As a contrast the greater economic resiliency of Sweden and other European countries was pointed out. There the Labor forces have obtained by their own efforts and organizations the greater share in the profits of industry, with which the American scheme would endow their transatlantic fellow workers. Unemploy-

ment relief through public works is also more thoroughly organized and so is the care for the destitute. Old age pensions from the State as well as private pensions on retirement and other forms of social insurance are more general, and the total effect of these social reforms is shown in a steadier purchasing power.

THE ELECTRIFICATION on the main lines of the State Railways continued. The transformation of the power on the trunk line to Malmö from Stockholm was completed October 1, six months ahead of schedule, which meant the saving of about 7,000,000 kronor in the estimated cost of 70,000,000. The new power will make possible a saving of several hours in the running time between Berlin and Stockholm when the new time-tables go into effect in May 1934. The next line to be electrified will be the one to the north of Stockholm as far as Ånge and after that will come the turn of the West Coast line between Malmö and Göteborg, which will ultimately affect the train time from the Continent and Copenhagen to Oslo. To celebrate the completion of the Stockholm-Malmö line the State Railway officials, headed by Director-General Axel Granholm, gave a banquet for the chief workers at Nässjö to show the Government's appreciation. The Socialist Minister of Communications, Henning Leo, who was once a locomotive engineer on the State Railways himself, distributed decorations and medals.

THE ONE HUNDREDTH anniversary of the birth of Alfred Nobel, inventor of dynamite, and donor of the Nobel prizes, was celebrated on October 21 with the announcement of the award of the 1933 prize in medicine to Professor Thomas Hunt Morgan, of the Institute of Technology at Pasadena, California, for his researches in the problems of heredity. Professor P. A. M. Dirac, the young English physicist, won one half of the 1933 prize in physics for his new atomic



theory. The other half goes to Professor Erwin Schroedinger, German authority on wave mechanics. The 1932 prize in physics is awarded Professor Werner Heisenberg, of Germany, for his contribution to the quantum theory. The prize in literature is given to Ivan Bunin, the Russian author who has been living in exile in France.

A NEW STIMULUS to aviation was given by the visit of Colonel and Mrs. Charles A. Lindbergh in September. As guests of the Royal Flying Corps, they remained in and about Stockholm for approximately two weeks, and Colonel Lindbergh flew several planes, besides conferring with the Swedish aviation experts regarding the projected air line from the United States. They also visited his ancestral home in Skåne. On the first attempt, the place was so blocked with curious neighbors, that the couple went away disappointed. Later they came unannounced by automobile and saw practically all the descendants of Colonel Lindbergh's grandfather, as well as the old farmstead.

On the strength of Colonel Lindbergh's advice, the Swedish Aërotransport decided to buy a new type of fast American plane, made in California, for the mail service, and two of its officials, K. H. Larsson, chief engineer of operations, and Lieutenant K. G. Lindner, chief pilot, were sent on an inspection tour to the United States. They arrived late in October and after visiting airports and manufacturing plants in the East, set out to fly across the United States for the Pacific Coast air centers.

In diplomacy a new aviation agreement was signed between the United States and Sweden, providing for an exchange of flying privileges, pilots' licenses, and certification of materials.

THE 1933 TOURIST season was declared better than expected. On account of the depreciation of the krona, the Swedish people traveled more in their own country,

and the number of foreign cruise ships that docked in Göteborg, Visby, and Stockholm was greater than ever. Two large international congresses were held in Stockholm, both followed by excursions to the provinces, managed by technical experts in the subjects covered. The first was the World Power Conference, which led to inspections of the Swedish waterfalls and power plants, and the second, the International Congress of Art Historians, whose delegates went out to visit museums, old churches, castles, and ruins.

The season was also notable for the number of American writers who visited Sweden. The list included Edna Ferber, Marc Connolly, Pearl Buck, Louis Bromfield, Robert H. Davis, Willis J. Abbot, Ralph Pulitzer, Margaret Leach, Sidney Herzberg, Marquis W. Childs, Russell Crouse, Carl T. Sigman, William B. Powell, Hans V. Kaltenborn, and John Floyd Yewell.



DURING the last quarter Norway has been less affected by the world economic crisis than many other countries. An optimistic view is taken by the Central Bureau of Statistics in its statement issued in September. According to that eagle-eyed bureau the situation has improved considerably in Norway during the last few months. The exporting industries have benefited by the upward trend and the rise of prices abroad, and in the case of several branches of industry the statistical position is very good. So far, the rise in prices has not made itself felt in the home market. The wholesale price index has not fluctuated more than one point during the whole of the current year. In the stock market, however, optimism is revealed in rising prices, and the so-called share index rose from 59.1 in April to 66.7 in August. The brightest spot in the picture is repre-

sented by the employment figures, which reveal increased activity in business. Statistics relating to the production of Norwegian industry also disclose signs of improved activity. The shipping industry is one of the few industries which seem to reflect little improvement. Freight rates continue at exceptionally low levels and competition is fierce. On the other hand some Norwegian ships have been recommissioned during the last months. Since May the amount of idle Norwegian tonnage has been reduced from 1,264,000 tons dw. to about 862,000 tons dw., the lowest figure on record since January 1931. The whaling industry is promising; more than five thousand men went to the Antarctic waters with the Norwegian whaling fleet in August, and the first reports that have come in tell of a big catch.

STATISTICS of business might lead one to believe that conditions were comparatively rosy, but a glance at the parliamentary elections held October 16 discloses a political upheaval such as rarely has occurred in Norway. Long before the astonished poll-inspectors had finished counting the paper ballots, it was known that the Labor Party, which only three years ago received a thorough beating at the hands of the conservatives, was on its way to victory. When the reports from every district had come in, the Laborites were found to have won twenty-two new seats in the Storting, making a total representation of sixty-nine of that legislative body's 150 representatives. The conservative parties, stunned by the defeat, hastily mustered their scattered troops, finding that great losses had been suffered. The Right (extreme conservatives) had entered the battle with forty-one representatives, and emerged with thirty; the Left (liberals) lost nine seats and must fight to keep the Mowinkel Cabinet in power with only twenty-four representatives. The Peasant Party fared far better, benefiting by the fact that the small farm owners have many financial problems in

common with the adherents of the Labor Party; it lost only two seats in the Storting, holding twenty-three of the previous twenty-five. The remaining seats were divided in small units of questionable importance. The Liberal People's Party lost one seat and now is represented by only one man; the Radical People's Party, which had one seat in the Storting, maintained status quo; the Community Party made its debut in national politics by winning one seat, a feat which was equaled by the Christian People's Party. The National Rising Party, headed by Major Vidkun Quisling, member of the former Peasant Cabinet, and sometimes called Norway's Hitler, was unable to obtain a single seat in the Storting.

THREE DAYS after the election the Central Board of the Labor Party demanded the immediate resignation of the Mowinkel Cabinet. In a statement, which fell like a bombshell into the turmoil of the election upheaval, the leading Laborites declared that the people had voiced their dissatisfaction with the present administration, and that a new course must be taken at once to combat unemployment. The Labor Party demanded the right to form a new Cabinet. Premier Johan Ludwig Mowinkel refused to resign, stating that such a step would be unconstitutional and unparliamentary. Mr. Mowinkel also stressed the fact that the Labor Party did not constitute a majority in the new Storting, and said that the Cabinet would yield only to the wishes of an absolute majority vote.

A WELCOME relief in the hectic political campaign of Oslo and the country as a whole was the arrival of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh and his wife in the Norwegian capital October 2. The famous American flyer spent a few days sightseeing in Oslo. From there he flew to Stavanger, the rival of Bergen for the honor of being picked as a possible airport of the much talked of but still highly uncertain

U.S.A.-Europe air line. Colonel Lindbergh smilingly evaded the anxious questions of the Stavanger citizens, and did not commit himself, but won the entire town by his charm.

Almost as if it were prompted by the visit of the celebrated American airman, the first Norwegian air line was announced in Oslo, October 26, under the name "Norske Luftfartsselskap Fred Olsen." The company was incorporated with a capital of 750,000 kroner. Application has been made to the government for a concession to operate private air lines between Oslo and Kristiansand, and from Aalesund via Stavanger to Kristiansand; foreign connection is contemplated from Kristiansand to Amsterdam, Holland. Traffic is scheduled to open May 1, 1935.

Norway, too, has been faced by the serious problem of what to do for the young girls and boys who have been graduated from school and cannot obtain employment. Last January an attempt was made in Oslo to reduce the army of idle youth by opening a municipal employment office for young people. Results have been good; so far this year more than 1500 jobs have been found for young men and women. The range of employment covers office and factory work. Every applicant is put through a psychotechnical test in order to determine his fitness for a special line of work. The tests have been arranged by Dr. Helga Eng, and have proved highly useful; many employers now request that young job-seekers submit to the psychotechnical test before their application is considered. A committee has been named in Bergen to study the Young People's Employment Bureau in Oslo, with the intention of opening a similar office in Bergen.

•ASA•

## NORTHERN LIGHTS

### Leif Ericson

The annual celebration of Leif Ericson Day is gaining ground. In three States, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and South Dakota, it is recommended by act of the legislature that a half hour or more be given in every school of the State to commemorate the Norse discovery on Leif Ericson Day, October 9. In Wisconsin the Leif Ericson Memorial Association is doing good work in arranging programs, suggesting topics, and engaging competent speakers.

It is natural that Wisconsin should be in the lead, as it is the home of that valiant old fighter, Rasmus B. Anderson who nearly sixty years ago started the campaign with his book *America Not Discovered by Columbus*, and who at eighty-eight is still interested in the cause. Last summer the Leif Ericson Memorial Association met in his home for the election of officers.

### Selma Lagerlöf Has a Birthday

The seventy-fifth birthday of Selma Lagerlöf occurred on November 20. By her own request the day was allowed to pass very quietly. She asked that all celebrations and even letters and telegrams be dispensed with, giving as her reason in part her weakened health and in part that—to quote her own words—"it seems unfitting to me to celebrate a feast of joy in this time of general distress, when every penny that can be spared must be used to relieve the suffering of our unfortunate fellow men."

### A Degree for Archbishop Eidem

The University of Edinburgh conferred an honorary degree of doctor of divinity upon Archbishop Erling Eidem of Sweden on the occasion of the University's three hundred and fiftieth anniversary, October 28.

**Hamlet's Grave**

Our readers may remember an article in the April number by O. Löye in which he described the spot near Randers where the historical Hamlet, or Amled, lived and died. Amled was King of Jutland in the early Viking Age, and the place where he is buried is still called Ammelhede, Amled's Heath. The local tradition to this effect has been confirmed by historians, and last summer a monument was raised on his grave. It is an immense boulder in which an inscription has been cut. It was dedicated on September 3.

**Dr. Prince Honored by Denmark**

Dr. J. Dyneley Prince, former American Minister to Denmark, has received the Grand Cross of the Order of Dannebrog. The decoration was conferred by Consul General Bech on behalf of the Danish King in the Library Hall of Columbia University. Dr. Prince expressed his thanks in Danish. President Butler also spoke and recalled the fact that he had himself been an exchange professor sent to the Scandinavian countries by the American-Scandinavian Society.

**The New Swedish Consul General**

Nils Gustaf Weidel, commercial counselor at the Swedish Legation in Washington, has been appointed the successor of Mr. Lamm as Consul General in New York. Mr. Weidel came to Washington in 1921 as commercial attaché. He is a man of wide interests and has many friends here.

**At Chicago University**

Professor Chester Gould has for many years been giving courses in Old Norse and in modern Swedish and Norwegian at Chicago University. The interest in these courses is shown by the fact that there is an active Scandinavian Society at the University.

Last year the local chapters of the American Daughters of Sweden offered a scholarship for the best woman student

in the Swedish courses. The prize was won by Miss Ethel Swanson.

**Norwegian Studies in California**

The Extension Service of the University of California has established classes in Norwegian with Dr. Oskar Emil as instructor. He is giving lectures in English on Norwegian life and literature as well as classes in the language. To begin with, sixty-six students registered.

**Harvard Fellowship to Sweden**

The Rogers Fellowship for study abroad has been awarded to Carl O. E. Anderson. He left in September for Sweden where he is studying at Uppsala University. His subject is "William Morris as a translator of Old Norse."

**Wallin to Exhibit Here**

The Swedish artist David Wallin with Mrs. Wallin visited this country in October in order to arrange for an exhibition of his works in New York and possibly other cities during the coming winter. The artist became known here through his participation in the art competition at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, where he won the gold medal for his landscapes with figures.

**In Boston**

The American-Scandinavian Forum has resumed its monthly meetings for the winter, which will be held as usual at Phillips Brooks House, Harvard University. During the month of November an exhibition of painting and sculpture by American Scandinavian artists was held at the Germanic Museum of Harvard University under the auspices of the Forum.

**Studying under Niels Bukh**

Miss Evelyn Andrews of the Russell Sage College last summer led a group of twenty American women students who went to Ollerup to study gymnastics under Niels Bukh at his famous High School. In the last six years in all 140 American



young women have taken a course at Ollerup to fit themselves for teaching gymnastics at American universities. Most of these have been from Russell Sage College.

#### A Comedy by Björnson

The Repertory Playhouse in Seattle, which some years ago staged a successful performance of Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*, has recently added to its repertoire Björnson's *Geography and Love*. According to *Washington-Posten* the popular old piece could well hold its own and still seemed fresh and amusing, in spite of transplantation to a foreign country and a new age.

#### A Popular Picture

The Norwegian story by Sigrid Boo which in English is called *Servants' Entrance* and which has had a phenomenal success, being translated into thirty languages, has now been put into a Swedish talking picture with a good cast. The Swedish title is *Vi som går köksvägen*. It has been seen at the Fifth Avenue Playhouse in New York and has been well received. Among the actors are Tutta Berntzen and Karin Swanström.

#### A Fellowship from the Tuborg Foundation

A fellowship of 10,000 kroner has been awarded by the Tuborg Foundation to the editor Poul Graae for study in the United States. The appointment is made by the Journalistforbund in Copenhagen.

#### Exhibit and Sale of Handicrafts

The John C. Campbell Folk School, of Brasstown, North Carolina, is having an exhibit and sale of articles made by its pupils. The exhibition is held on December 4 and 6 to 9, inclusive, in the Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East 22nd Street, New York. Moving pictures of the school are shown every day.

As our readers will remember, the school at Brasstown was organized by Mrs. Olive Dame Campbell, former Fellow of the Foundation to Denmark.

#### Dr. Christian L. Lange to Lecture Here

Dr. Christian L. Lange, the well known secretary of the Inter-Parliamentary Union at Geneva and one of the outstanding figures in the public life of Europe, with Mrs. Lange is planning to come to the United States early in April for a visit to the Pacific Coast. Dr. Lange was at one time secretary of the Nobel Committee for the Peace Prize and director of the Nobel Institute at Oslo. He has been a delegate from Norway to all assemblies of the League of Nations since 1930. He was a delegate from his country to the recent Disarmament Conference and has been sitting with the Committee of Nineteen dealing with the Manchurian dispute. He visited this country in 1925, lecturing under the auspices of the Institute of International Education. The Institute in arranging an itinerary for him for next spring is planning to have him visit several large cities, spending a week in each place and lecturing at colleges and other institutions which may desire him in that vicinity. Among the centers which Dr. and Mrs. Lange will visit are New York, Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, the Twin Cities, Des Moines, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Dr. Lange has chosen as subjects the following:

The League of Nations: Its Problems and Methods

Disarmament, Security and the Organization of Peace (Technique of Disarmament; Political Background; Disarmament and Security)

The Inter-Parliamentary Union

The Development of Democracy in the Scandinavian Countries

History of International Relations since the Beginning of the Nineteenth Century

Those desiring to arrange for a lecture should address the Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th Street, New York City.



# THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples,  
by means of an exchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information*

ESTABLISHED BY NIELS POULSON, IN 1911

**Trustees:** Henry Goddard Leach, President; Charles S. Haight, John A. Gade, William Hovgaard, Vice-Presidents; Hans Christian Sonne, Treasurer; John G. Bergquist, E. A. Cappelen-Smith, James Creese, Lincoln Ellsworth, John D. Hage, Hamilton Holt, Edwin O. Holter, George N. Jeppson, William Witherle Lawrence, Hilmer Lundbeck, Charles S. Peterson, Charles J. Rhoads, Frederic Schaefer, George Vincent, Owen D. Young.

**Cooperating Bodies:** Sweden—Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, Grevturegatan 16, Stockholm, J. S. Edström, President; A. R. Nordvall, Kommerserådet Enström, and Professor The. Svedberg, Vice-Presidents; Eva Fröberg, Secretary; **Denmark**—Danmarks Amerikanske Selskab, A. O. Andersen, President; Viggo Carstensen, Secretary, Store Kongensgade 72, Copenhagen; **Norway**—Norge-Amerika Fondet, Lille Strandgate 1, Oslo; K. J. Hougen, Chairman; Arne Kildal, Secretary.

**Associates:** All who are in sympathy with the aims of the Foundation are invited to become Associates. **Regular Associates**, paying \$3.00 annually, receive the **REVIEW**. **Sustaining Associates**, paying \$10.00 annually, receive the **REVIEW** and **CLASSICS**. **Life Associates**, paying \$200.00 once for all, receive all publications.

## Trustees' Meeting

The regular autumn meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation was held at the Foundation's house, 116 East 64th Street, New York, on Saturday, November 4. There was a luncheon preceding the meeting at which the Honorable John Dyneley Prince, former Minister to Denmark, and Mr. Wilhelm Morgenstierne, Consul General of Norway, were guests.

Meeting for the first time since the death on September 14 of Mr. Hans Eskildsen Moller, Trustee and Treasurer of the Foundation, the Board unanimously passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Trustees of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, assembled for their first meeting since the death on September fourteenth, 1933, of a most trusted and respected associate, make record of their gratitude to Hans Eskildsen Moller, of their affection for him, and of their present sense of enduring loss. The land of his boyhood, Denmark, was naturally dear to him; his interest in the Foundation began in his understanding of the companion nations of the North. He became a Life Trustee on February seventh, 1920, and from that date held

continuously the office of Treasurer of the Foundation. His careful and judicious attention to the major and minute affairs of financial administration was made the more significant because of his consistent regard for the origin and underlying purposes of the Foundation. His fellow Trustees remember that at many times, as in the critical readjustment of the Hecla Iron Works investments, he earned a place of esteem near the founder for the conservation of the Poulson endowments in uninterrupted effectiveness.

November 4, 1933.

Mr. Hans Christian Sonne, acting Treasurer since Mr. Moller's death, was elected Treasurer by unanimous action of the Board.

It was announced at the meeting that beginning with the last number in 1933, the **AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW** would become a quarterly magazine. Each number will be considerably larger than the old monthly issue with a resulting opportunity for longer articles on important subjects and more fiction. Certain changes in style have also been made.

The Associate dues to the Foundation will remain at \$3.00, and to the Associates

will be sent in addition to the REVIEW periodic bulletins on subjects of the day. Subscriptions to the REVIEW alone will be accepted at \$2.00, but it is hoped that a large number of subscribers will wish to remain or become full Associates and thereby aid the Foundation in its other activities.

#### Mr. Moller's Death

On September 14 Mr. Hans Eskildsen Moller, Treasurer of the Foundation, died at Cambridge, Massachusetts, after an illness of some months. He had come there from his summer home at Nantucket to undergo an operation and was believed to be convalescing.

Mr. Moller was born in Copenhagen in 1865 and after completing his education in that city, came to the United States in 1887. He entered business in New York as an expert accountant, and in 1890 became a partner in the firm of Smith and Moller. In 1892 he became an American citizen and shortly afterwards associated himself with the late James B. Haggin and his varied enterprises. At the time of his death he was an executor of the Haggin estate and Secretary and Treasurer of the Cerro de Pasco Copper Company as well as a director of many other corporations. Mr. Moller is survived by his wife and by a brother and sister.

#### Fellows of the Foundation

Miss Signe Borlind, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, returned home on August 19. Miss Borlind had been studying vocational guidance, and allied subjects at the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin.

Miss Anna-Greta Nordström, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who has been studying social service at the Essex County Hospital in New Jersey and at Columbia University and Smith College, returned home on September 12.

Mr. Gösta Sterky, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, arrived in New York



*Hans Eskildsen Moller*

on August 22. Mr. Sterky has taken up his studies in mining engineering at the Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh.

Mr. Ivar Waller, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who has been studying physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and at the University of Michigan, sailed for home on September 8.

Mr. Ralf Thorburn, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, arrived in New York on September 11. Mr. Thorburn will spend the year studying electrical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Miss Marta Widen, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, arrived in New York on September 11. Miss Widen has taken up her studies at St. Barnabas Hospital, Newark, New Jersey.

Mr. Ivar Elvers, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who has been studying botany at the University of California, sailed on September 27 for Australia and

Java, where he will continue his studies before returning to Sweden.

Mr. Hans Bang, Fellow of the Foundation from Denmark, arrived in New York on October 2. Mr. Bang has taken up his studies in dairy husbandry at the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Arne Müntzing, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, arrived in New York on September 26 and will study botany at Cornell University and the University of California.

Professor Yngve Öhman, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, arrived in New York on September 26. Mr. Öhman will spend some time at the Lick Astronomical Observatory in California.

Mr. L. R. Nienstædt, Fellow of the Foundation from Denmark, arrived in New York on October 2. Mr. Nienstædt is engaged in economic research at Columbia University.

Miss Helen Natvig, Fellow of the Foundation from Norway, arrived in New York on September 22. Miss Natvig is studying domestic economy and making a survey of American hotel methods at the Hotel Astor and the Waldorf Astoria.

Mr. H. R. Seiwell, Fellow of the Foundation to Norway, returned to the United States on September 1. Mr. Seiwell has been studying at the Geophysical Institute in Bergen, and has now resumed his work at the Oceanographic Institute at Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Mr. Raymond Charles Bacon, Fellow of the Foundation to Denmark, sailed from New York on September 23. Mr. Bacon has entered the laboratory of Professor Bjerrum in Copenhagen, where he will carry on research in chemistry.

Mr. Carl W. Borgmann, Fellow of the Foundation to Sweden, after spending part of the summer at Trondheim, Norway, has begun his researches in metallurgy at the Metallografiska Institut in Stockholm.

Mr. Alfred G. Robertson, Fellow of the Foundation to Denmark, who spent last

year at the Institute of Physical Chemistry in Copenhagen will remain there to continue his research under a Danish grant awarded to him.

Mrs. Anna Lenah Elgström, Zorn Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, who recently returned home, lectured in many different cities in this country during her stay, on subjects connected with modern life and literature in Sweden. Mrs. Elgström visited Washington, Chicago, Seattle, and San Francisco, and sailed from California on a ship of the Johnson Line.

Mr. Sven Ahrnborg, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden, arrived in New York in September. Mr. Ahrnborg is studying American business methods and attending lectures at Columbia University.

Mr. Linton Wilson, Fellow of the Foundation to Sweden, returned to New York on September 14. Mr. Wilson has been in Sweden for nearly two years writing a book on modern Swedish architecture, which the Foundation hopes to publish in 1934.

#### Former Fellows

Dr. Otto Mohr, a former Fellow of the Foundation from Norway and professor of biology in the University of Oslo, delivered the Dunham Lectures at Harvard University in November.

Miss Svea Anderson, Fellow of the Foundation to Sweden in 1926, recently received the degree of Master of Arts from Yale University. Miss Anderson has been instrumental in securing a complete reference library on Swedish music for the Yale University Library.

#### Among the Western Colleges

The Editor of the REVIEW spent the month of October visiting a number of the Scandinavian colleges in the Middle West. The trip included three Swedish, three Norwegian, and two Danish colleges. Miss Larsen spoke to the students and faculty on the work of the Foundation.

**The Secretary's Trip**

Mr. Neilson Abeel, Secretary of the Foundation, returned to New York on October 20 after spending nearly three months in Denmark. He also paid a brief visit to Stockholm in September. During his stay in Denmark Mr. Abeel visited all parts of the country in order to better acquaint himself with the language and literature and to investigate conditions. The cooperation in Copenhagen of Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, the American Minister, of Professor William Hovgaard, a Trustee of the Foundation, and of Mr. Viggo Carstensen, Secretary of Danmarks-Amerikanske Selskab, greatly facilitated the Secretary's work.

**The New York Chapter**

The first meeting of the New York Chapter of the Foundation was held at

the Hotel Plaza on the evening of November 17, and was in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the American-Scandinavian Society. The principal speaker was Mr. Henry Goddard Leach, President of the Foundation, and there was a musical program by Miss Eleanor Kern, discuse, and Mr. Nathan Price, accompanist. The guests of honor were the Consul General of Denmark and Mrs. Bech, the Consul General of Norway and Mrs. Morgenstierne, the acting Consul General of Sweden and Mrs. Arfwedson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Goddard Leach, and Miss Hanna Astrup Larsen. The hostesses for the evening were Mrs. G. Hilmer Lundbeck, Miss Margit Hjernevik, and Mrs. Andrew J. Riis. The chairman of the Social Committee is Mrs. Rasmus M. Michelsen.

## THE REVIEW AND



## ITS CONTRIBUTORS

Archbishop Erling Eidem succeeded the late Archbishop Söderblom as primate of Sweden. . . . John Landquist is a well-known Swedish writer on literary and philosophical subjects. . . . P. A. Rosenberg has to his credit a versatile authorship spanning over more than fifty years. He has written plays, poems, and stories besides books on religious and philosophic subjects. . . . Ann Margret Holmgren is the grand old lady of the Swedish suffragists and has been active in many other movements for social betterment. She is also a writer of distinction. She and her husband, Professor Holmgren, were warm personal friends

of Artur Hazelius. . . . Delphia Phillips, a contributor from Corona del Mar, is an earnest nature lover and student of the outdoors. . . . Clarence Edwin Flynn is a clergyman and poet, pastor of a church in Troy, New York.

Our new cover design is by Johan Bull, a Norwegian artist now living in New York, an illustrator of books and magazines. . . . The maps of the Scandinavian countries and Arctic islands on the inside back cover and facing page have been drawn for the REVIEW by a New York architect, Edward Steese. They will be a permanent feature of the quarterly REVIEW.



# Norwegian Books for American Libraries 1932

Compiled by the Scandinavian Book Review Committee of the American Library Association. Collaborators: Birgit Foss, Deichmanske Bibliotek, Oslo, Norway; Anna Skabo Erichsen, New York Public Library; and Rudolph H. Gjelsness, University of Arizona Library, Tucson, Arizona, chairman of the committee. Prices have been supplied by Bonniers Publishing House, New York, and are for bound copies, unless otherwise indicated.

## FICTION

**Anker, Nini Roll.** Enken. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.50.

The heroic and bitter struggle of a mother to rear her five children and to instil in them courage and spiritual strength. A strong book with excellent characterization of the younger generation.

**Duun, Olav.** Ettermæle. Norli. 1932. \$1.75. Powerful and impressive writing, simple but of monumental beauty. Deals with the efforts of a husband to protect the good name of his dead wife by taking upon himself the suspicion of having murdered her.

**Elster, Kristian.** Fugl Föniks. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.15.

Light and entertaining, against a background of modern Oslo life, contrasting the generation now in its fifties with the twenty-year-olds.

**Fangen, Ronald.** Duel. Gyldendal. 1932. \$2.65.

A "duel" between two friends, the weaker-willed struggling against domination by the stronger. A psychological novel of unusual interest.

**Gudmundsson, Kristmann.** Det hellige fjell. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.90.

An Icelandic novel of early saga times. Fine character portrayal, a well motivated plot, and vivid description of scenery.

**Mahrt, Haakon Bugge.** Kjære Europa. Gyldendal. 1932. \$1.75.

Two stories of merit. The setting of *Kjære Europa* is Geneva with an entertaining plot involving the youth of many nations.

**Rölvaag, O. E.** Rent guld. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.15.

An early novel by this author now issued for the first time in Norway. Traces the effects of miserly greed for money on the characters of a husband and wife. Published in English translation by Harper in 1930 under the title *Pure Gold*.

**Sandel, Cora.** Carmen og Maja. Gyldendal. 1932. \$1.90.

Short stories, stark and realistic, but with a happy blending of humor and pathos.

**Sandemose, Aksel.** Klabauter mannen. Gyldendal. 1932. \$2.00.

A haunting and fantastic sea tale, vividly told.

**Undset, Sigrid.** Ida Elisabeth. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.90.

A searching study of a woman's life following her marriage to an easy-going, ineffectual man, contrasting that in life which is of permanent value and brings inner satisfaction, with that which is the need only of the moment. She rejects the opportunity of selfish happiness for herself because it would mean separation from the small sons who need her.

## GENERAL

**Björnson, Björn.** Bjørnstjerne Björnson; hjemmet og vennerne. Aulestad-minner. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.20.

Björnson in his home as told by his son. A revealing portrayal of his more intimate life, his friends and interests.

**Björnson, Bjørnstjerne.** Kongebrødre. Gyldendal. 1932. \$3.50.

A newly discovered Björnson manuscript. The play was written as a sequel to Sigurd Jorsalfar, but was never published. Successfully produced at the National Theater in 1932.

**Bonnevie, Margarete.** Ekteskap og arbeide. Some. 1932. Paper bound, \$.75.

Woman and work. Chapters on woman's position in the world of today. A book to provoke discussion.

**Borchgrevink, Ridley.** Svart og hvitt. Aschehoug. 1932. \$3.00.

Observations on natives and animal life in Africa, written and illustrated by an artist.

**Bull, Olaf.** Ignis ardens. Gyldendal. 1932. \$1.70.

Distinguished verse by one of Norway's leading poets.

**Hansen, Hans Molholm.** P. Chr. Asbjørnson. Aschehoug. 1933. \$3.50.

An excellent study of the genial folklorist and a valuable contribution to the field of folklore.

**Hersoug, Ole.** Fedrenegården. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.15.

An honest, simple narrative of rural life in Hedemarken a half century ago.

**Huitfeldt, Carl.** Norge i andres øine. Gyldendal. 1932. \$2.50.

An interesting and diverting compilation of early foreign travel accounts of Norway.



Lövenskiöld, Herman. Fuglelivet på Fokkstumyren. Gyldendal. 1932. \$3.00.  
Norwegian bird life. Attractive illustrations.

Det norske folks liv og historie. v.6. Tidsrummet 1720-1770, av Sverre Steen. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.25.

Continuation of the excellent, scholarly history of Norway by a group of authors.

Vogt, Nils Collett. Fra gutt til mann. Aschehoug. 1932. \$2.50.

An engaging autobiography of the youthful years of Norway's most famous living poet.



### FICTION

The Maid Silja, the History of the Last Offshoot of an Old Family Tree. By F. E. Sillanpää. Translated from the Finnish by Alexander Matson. Macmillan. 1933. \$2.00.

F. E. Sillanpää writes in Finnish, but has for some time been known in the Scandinavian countries through Swedish translations. His novel *Silja*, which appeared in 1931, has been regarded as the finest expression of Finnish genius in recent years. It is now published in an English translation which, though a rather opaque medium, cannot conceal the lambent beauty of a most unusual book.

*The Maid Silja* is a humble tragedy. The young farm maid, in the last stages of consumption, lies in a poor hovel on the Kierrikka farm. The master is calculating whether her tiny inheritance will pay for her keep without recourse to the parish, and the mistress is wearing her clothes. But *Silja* is already enveloped in the majesty of death and cares nothing for them. She does not feel her lot to be dreary, as she lies in the clean little room, looking at the sunlight on the floor. She is living over again her short life, feeling a mystic nearness to her lover who, having been maimed in the war, is also lying on his bed and suffering, though far away from her.

The author then goes back to tell the story of *Silja's* father, Kustaa Salmelus, heir to an old farm, who loves and marries a girl of inferior breed. Partly due to the rapacity of her family, and partly because Hilma herself cannot fill the place of farm mistress, Kustaa is impoverished and has to sell the home of his ancestors. The wife and older children die, leaving him with little *Silja*, the youngest. The two are close companions, but Kustaa also dies, and that is the end of *Silja's* happy, sheltered childhood.

She has to go out as a farm maid, moving from one farm to another, suffering extreme poverty, exposed all the time to lewd talk and

indecent advances. She is a perfectly human and warm-blooded girl, who even feels attracted to one of her rough admirers, but she has inherited a fineness and purity that lift her out of her surroundings. One happy summer is vouchsafed her. She spends it as a servant in the house of an old professor who is kind to her, and there she experiences the love which remains as the last thing in her consciousness.

A simple enough story and even dreary, as death follows death, and yet the author has given it a tender pathos and poetic glamour that lift it far above the sordid or commonplace. The nature descriptions, though they have perhaps suffered most in translation, nevertheless convey to us the beauty of the Northern summers.

Sillanpää knows the Finnish backwoods and the life lived in the little grey cottages intimately. He gives us a glimpse of the struggle between classes and the terrors of the civil war between Whites and Reds, but the novel is not a social study. We see war and politics only as they affect the peasant girl *Silja*. Her figure stands out all the more ethereal against the background of violence.

HANNA ASTRUP LARSEN

Ida Elisabeth. By Sigrid Undset. Translated from the Norwegian by Arthur G. Chater. Knopf. 1933. \$2.50.

In this novel Sigrid Undset goes back to the theme of her very first story, *Fru Martha Oulie*, and shows a woman who in her years of marriage has become enmeshed in a net of fine threads that she cannot break without doing violence to her own life.

Ida Elisabeth has become burdened with a husband who is almost unbelievably good-for-nothing. She not only has to support him and their children, but has to help his ineffectual and hopelessly unsuccessful family. Again and again she resolves that she will not meet the demands made on her, but always their pathetic helplessness is too much for her resolution. After all, Frithjof has no vices. But once, when he has been pushed into a job at some distance from home, he comes back and confesses to having been ensnared by an elderly spinster who has cast her eyes on him.

At that Ida Elisabeth's disgust rises to a point where she is able to abandon him to his fate. She goes away to another part of the country, and again succeeds in building up a business and creating a pleasant home. She discovers that she is still young and attractive. She meets a man who is strong, clean, energetic, somewhat matter-of-fact—the exact opposite of her former husband and his people. They love each other and are planning to get married, but the past rises between them in the persons of her little boys. They show traits of their father's nature. She herself, guided by mother love, can bring out the best in them, but Toksvold, her fiancé, when he tries to help her, only produces irritation.

Just as matters are already strained between them, her former husband and all his unhappy family discover her and again throw themselves upon her pity. She rages against fate, but she cannot cast them off. Once more the burden is fastened upon her.

The book contains no great scenes, no tragic depths or emotional heights. It is a record of the details that form so large a part in the lives of most people, especially of women: the struggle against want, against ugliness and sordidness; the satisfaction of the small task well done bringing its hour of leisure; the pleasure in a pretty dress or in transforming an ugly room into a pleasant one. These things are not just externals, they are the very warp and woof of life. Sigrid Undset has a wise and sympathetic understanding of the struggle that is the lot of most people. She makes us feel that, in spite of all, life courageously lived, as Ida Elisabeth lived it, is good.

In the original Norwegian Sigrid Undset's dialogue is idiomatic, often racy, and sustains the illusion of being spoken rather than written. Unfortunately the heavy literalness of the translator mars the illusion. Norwegians, like Americans, are prone to strong expressions, but these expressions have often lost their meaning in course of time. "Er du gal?" doesn't convey a question as to the sanity of the person addressed, but only a vigorous negative. "Frygtelig" has lost all implication of frightfulness, and means simply "very." But Mr. Chater spares us nothing. His pages are peppered with such expressions as "frightfully nice," etc. It is a pity someone cannot enlighten him on values in spoken Norwegian.

H. A. L.

**The Wild Horses of Iceland.** By Svend Fleuron. Translated from the Danish by E. Gee Nash. *Henry Holt*. 1933. \$2.50.

Svend Fleuron has long been known as a writer of nature and animal stories, and not only in his native Denmark have his sensitive descriptions of beast, bird, and fish been enjoyed by nature lovers. *Grim, the Story of a Pike*; *Kittens*; *Flax*, *Police Dog*, are other of his books that have been translated into English. The present volume, called *Sigurd Torleifsons Heste* in the original, is a monument to the horse, and tells of life on an isolated farm in Iceland, the owner of which was a great animal lover, and kept many horses. Sigurd Torleifson "knew that the whole of his life and well-being was bound up in his horses. Without a horse one could get nowhere in his country. The shortest road would stretch out to infinity if one did not climb up on the back of a horse. A little bog, a rushing stream, a patch of lava boulders—any of these was enough to block the road if one were on foot. Without a horse there could be no journeys, no new impressions, no excitement—in fact, without a horse Iceland would not be worth living in."

We follow Ungin the young colt and his mother Flyga about the farm, to the mountain pastures, on long and perilous wanderings, through raging blizzards and icy streams. Each step bears witness to the intelligence and endurance of the sturdy, surefooted horse, and of the bond of understanding and devotion between the rider and his mount.

Not only animal life but the natural features of the bleak and desolate country are described with accurate detail and keen appreciation for their beauty and grandeur. Cecil Alden's illustrations are admirably suited to the story.

A. C. R.

**Impossible Evensen. A Novel** by Elias Kraemmer. Translated from the Norwegian by E. F. Hagen and E. Gay-Tift. *Coward-McCann*. 1933. \$2.00.

Elias Kraemmer is the pseudonym of Consul Anthon B. Nilsen, a business man with large lumber and shipping interests. Forty years ago he made a great success with a collection of very wet stories about small officials and business men called *Glade Borgere* (Jolly Citizens), and though he has written a number of books since, his inventiveness never flags. He is still a best seller in Norway.

The hero of *Impossible Evensen* is a skipper of mixed reputation. He has a record for life-saving, is a daredevil, and an inveterate smuggler. At one stage of his career he becomes a customs official, but prefers to retire to private life and smuggling again. Evensen owes his temporary lapse into respectability to his wife Lizzi, a former cook, ship's stewardess, and "heaven knows what besides," who goes in for moral uplift and gets her picture in the paper as the sponsor of various societies for the reformation of the town.

It must be admitted that the humor is not very subtle; it is rather of the horseplay variety, but its very robustness of fiber makes it easy to translate, and *Impossible Evensen* is crowded with comical episodes and amusing dialogue. The author has used his experience of the small seacoast town to observe the quaint and picturesque characters which no doubt were much more abundant in former days than now.

## JUVENILE

**Broomstick and Snowflake.** From the Norwegian of Johan Falkberget. Illustrated by Helen Sewell. *Macmillan*. 1933. \$1.75.

Here are fairy tales from Norway dealing with giants, and gnomes, and magic, told with the extravagant hyperbole of our own Paul Bunyan stories, and with an imagination so fantastic that they may tax the comprehension of the American child of the city and village, who has not lived among vast mountain ranges where blizzards come like racing giants, sweeping the snow with their huge brooms, where torrents rage and waterfalls boil, and the ice booms and crackles in the intense cold. But a

Norwegian child, brought up in the desolate valleys with a heritage of trolls and huldre, knows that "many wonderful things happen in the Northern mountains," and that there may be a fairy princess with gold and treasure hidden away under a hill.

These are such pictures as a hungry youngster in a tanner's cottage or an iron mine might conjure up, of gold and silver and food aplenty—a contrast to the tiny smoke-blackened hut "where the porridge never had a chance to mildew." Such pictures as Falkberget himself may have found comfort in imagining in his own childhood of poverty and hard work.

Helen Sewell's illustrations, happily conceived and finely executed, testify to her knowledge of things Scandinavian, as already shown in her drawings for *Building a House in Sweden* by Marjorie Cautley.

ANNA C. REQUE

**The Conquest of the Atlantic.** Text and Lithographs by Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire. *The Viking Press*. 1933. \$2.50.

In *The Conquest of the Atlantic* Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire have created a book that in the beauty of its lithographs and format is the equal of *Ola*, their lovely and distinctive picture story book for little children, which was published last year. This present volume is for any age after ten, and in a brief compass it spans a long period of history. We go back to the ancient days when the Atlantic was "The Sea of Darkness," stretching forth to the end of the world, full of terrors and dangers of every sort. Then we follow the voyages of the Vikings, the Portuguese, Spaniards, English, French, and Dutch. Sails give place to steam, the Atlantic cable is laid, wireless telegraphy and telephony are perfected, the airship flies the ocean, and we end with the flight of General Italo Balbo's twenty seaplanes from Italy, via Greenland, to Chicago in the summer of 1933.

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A. C. R.

**My Boys; a Holiday Book for Big and Little**, by Gustaf af Geijerstam. Translated from the Swedish by Alfhild Huebsch. Illustrated by Karl Larsson. *Viking Press*. 1933. \$2.00.

*My Boys; a Holiday Book for Big and Little* is well named for it tells of jolly holidays in a manner that young and old will both enjoy. The boys are the author's children, and the story chronicles a summer at the seaside on one of the many islands in the skerries of Stockholm. It is considered one of Geijerstam's most beautiful works and is the only one he has written for children. First published in Sweden in 1896, it has remained a popular favorite ever since. The intimate picture of

home life is painted with charm and a delicious sense of humor.

Mrs. Huebsch's translation reads very well, and Karl Larsson's pencil drawings are delightful and full of action.

A. C. R.

**A Norwegian Farm**, by Marie Hamsun. Abridged and Translated by Maida Castelhun Darnton. Illustrated by Elsa Jemne. *Lippincott*. 1933. \$2.00.

*A Norwegian Farm* combines in one volume two books by Marie Hamsun, the wife of Knut Hamsun, called in the Norwegian originals, *Bygdebörn. Hjemme og paa søsteren* and *Bygdebörn om vinteren*. In a most readable and natural style the author, who shares her illustrious husband's gift of story telling, writes of the everyday life, the work and play, of four children on a small Norwegian farm. A delightful sense of humor pervades the book, and a keen sympathy with the quickly changing joys and sorrows of childhood. Elsa Jemne's illustrations are most satisfactory.

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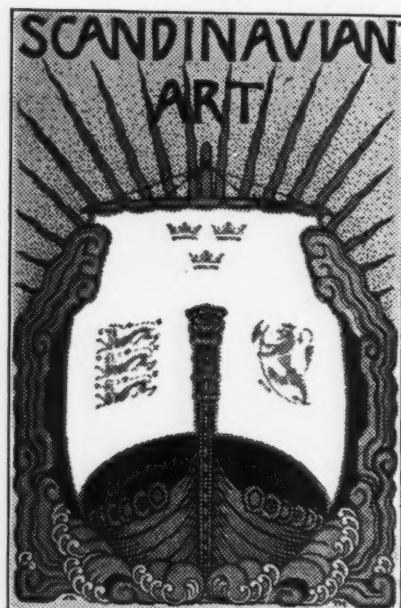
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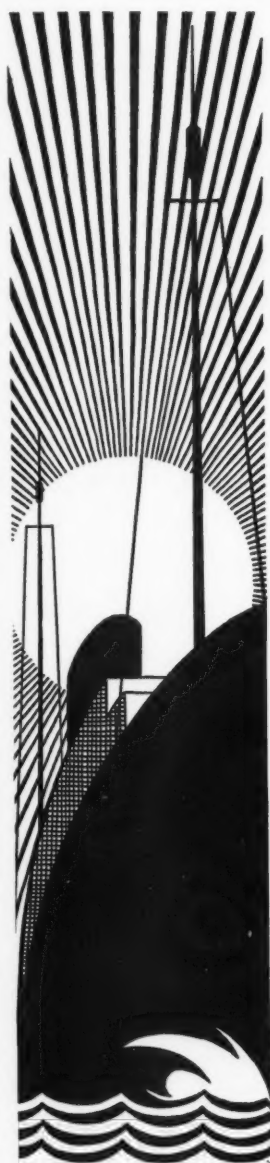
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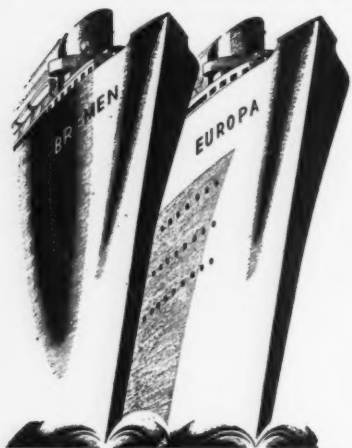
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Fred. Olsen & Co., the well known Oslo ship-owners, have taken over the Norwegian aviation company, the Norske Luftfartsselskab, and for this purpose enlarged the capital of the company with an initial amount of 500,000 kroner. The Norwegian Government is supporting the enterprise, and in collaboration with the Oslo municipality has decided to build an airport at the capital, the city to contribute 1,000,000 kroner for that purpose. The noted Norwegian flier, Captain Riiser-Larsen, will be in charge of the company. Work on the airport is to begin at once.

#### LIGHTHOUSES PREFERRED TO LIGHTSHIPS IN DANISH WATERS

The director of marine lights and marks in Danish waters avers that, while lightships generally serve their purpose, Danish shipping has expressed a wish for more lighthouses. In the number of radio beacons, Denmark is well to the front, and little by little these beacons have been gathered in groups which are links in an international plan. It is said that before long shipmasters will be able to "feel" their way in thick or foggy weather by means of radio beacons from the channel round the Skaw and right into the Baltic.

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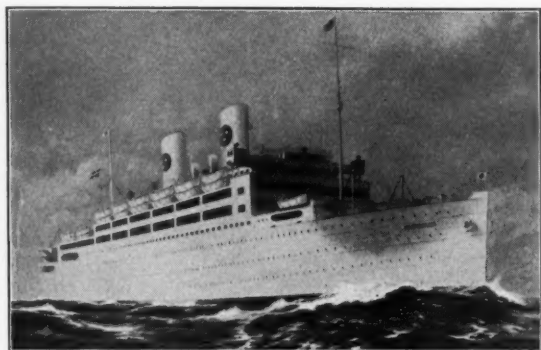
The New York *Journal of Commerce* recently published an article dealing with the complaint of British shipowners regarding Finnish competition. A British ship, according to the article, carrying a crew of thirty men was sold to a Finnish operator who at once reduced the crew to twenty-four men, and cut the aggregate daily wages from \$44 to \$16. Food allowance of 20 cents per man, is also cited. American vessels cost 50 per cent more to run than British ships, and two or three times as much as those of some foreign competitors, concludes the *Journal of Commerce*.

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*Dec. 9	Gripsholm	Nov. 25
Jan. 17	Drottningholm	Jan. 4
Feb. 17	Drottningholm	Feb. 3
Mar. 17	Drottningholm	Mar. 3
Apr. 4	Kungsholm	.....
Apr. 21	Gripsholm	Apr. 7
May 7	Kungsholm	Apr. 25
May 18	Drottningholm	May 5
† May 28	Gripsholm	May 12
June 4	Kungsholm	May 22
June 12	Drottningholm	May 31
‡ June 29	Kungsholm	June 16
July 3	Gripsholm	June 21
July 17	Drottningholm	July 5
§ July 26	Gripsholm	July 14

\* Christmas Excursion to Scandinavia.

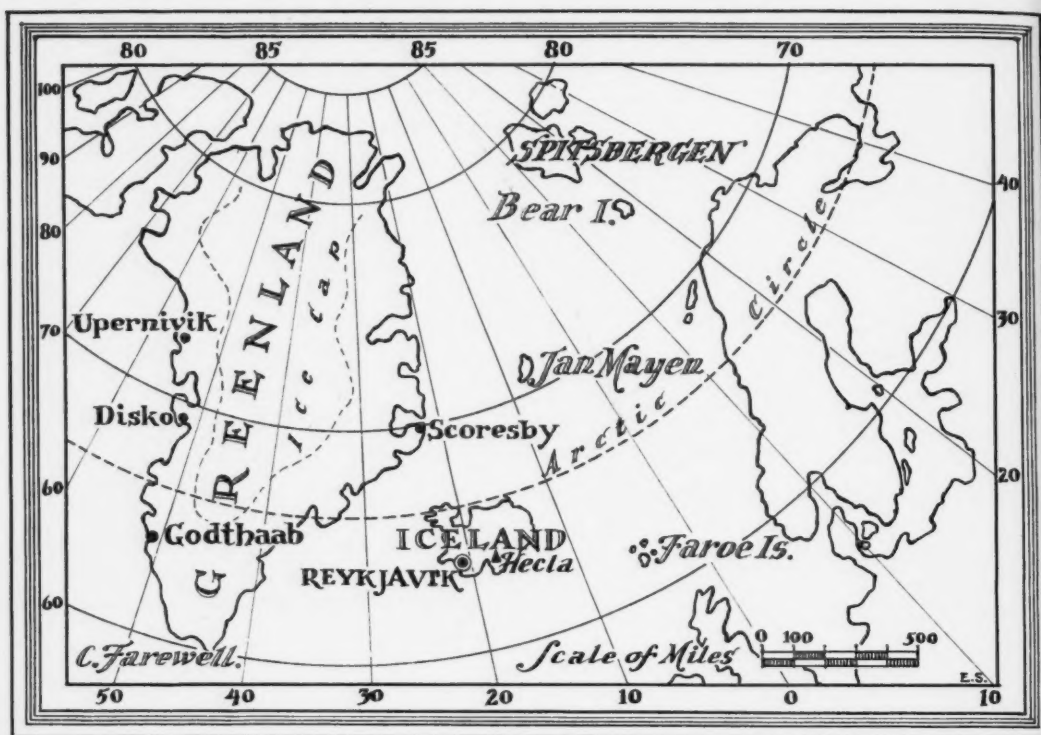
† Calling Helsingfors via Gothenburg.

‡ 42-Day Cruise to Iceland, North Cape, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia, France.

§ Baltic Cruise.

MINIMUM PASSAGE RATES to or from Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Oslo, Bergen, etc.			
"KUNGSHOLM"		"GRIPSHOLM"	
	First Class \$155.00		
Tourist Class	\$115.00	Round-trip	\$190.00
Third Class	92.50	Round-trip	149.50
"DROTTNINGHOLM"			
Cabin Class	\$125.00	Round-trip	\$232.00
Tourist Class	108.00	Round-trip	181.00
Third Class	90.00	Round-trip	146.50

When answering advertisements, please mention THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW



## TRADE NOTES

### PALESTINE FRUITS FOR DANISH MARKET IN EXCHANGE FOR MACHINERY

The increased population in Palestine, with the demand for agricultural machinery of various kinds, has resulted in a trade arrangement with Denmark whereby that country will sell a quantity of machines to the colonists and in return purchase such tropical products as are raised in that country. The Jewish farmers of Palestine are introducing the most modern methods in soil cultivation and are finding good markets for their products in Scandinavia, and other European countries.

### SWEDEN'S RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION SHOWS BIG GAIN

Second only to Switzerland in railroad electrification, Sweden expects to complete the entire State system by 1936. From the point of view of national economy, the electrification is important in that it reduces Sweden's import and increases its independence of foreign countries with respect to power supply. On the Malmö, Ånge, and West Coast lines alone there will be an annual saving of 4,300,000 kronor. Ivan Öfverholm, an official of the State Railways, states that there will also be a considerable saving in the purchases of new rolling stock and engines.

### NORWEGIAN WHALE OIL COMPANIES TO CUT PRODUCTION

The members of the Norwegian Association of Whaling Companies have agreed to cut their pro-

duction of whale oil during the 1933-34 season to 1,185,000 barrels. Only one company, with an estimated capacity of 50,000 barrels, is not participating in the agreement. Negotiations with British companies are under way and should an arrangement be arrived at, the total production is estimated at 2,640,000 barrels, as against 2,500,000 barrels during the 1932-33 season.

### SWEDEN INCREASES SALE OF ORE, TIMBER, WOOD-PULP, AND PAPER

Sales of Swedish raw products show constant increases. The Grängesberg Mining Company reports increased shipments month by month, and the same is the case with regard to timber and wood-pulp. Sales of newsprint to both North and South America have increased to the extent that more and more men are needed in the Swedish mills.

### ENGINEERING PROJECTS IN NEAR EAST AS DANISH ENTERPRISES

Among the engineering enterprises by Danish firms in the Near East, railroad and bridge construction in Persia is expected to continue for the next six years. Otto Kierulff, of the firm of Kampmann, Kierulff & Saxild, states that his company works in cooperation with the British firm of Peter Lind & Company and that besides the work in Persia, railroad construction in Turkey is well under way. Engineer Kierulff is of the opinion that more rapid transportation in the Near East will eventually work an economic revolution in these countries.





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